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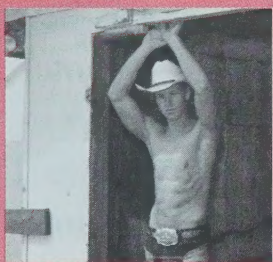
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this month in OUTLOOKS

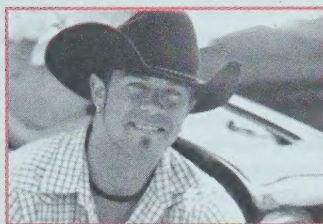
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HAY THERE!

Reel Time model Mark, photographed by Patricio Del Rio on location at the Freeman-Murray ranch outside of Calgary

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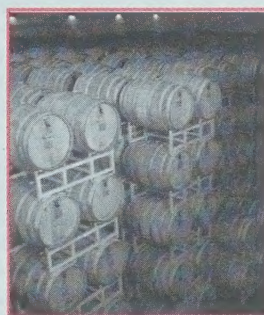


GIDDY UP!

The annual Canadian Rockies International Rodeo is famous for providing its visitors a perfect blend of non-stop rodeo action and after-dark fun. This year's event will be no exception, offering among other things an evening with rising country music star Aaron Pritchett.

WHAT AN ENCORE

Lifelong theatre enthusiast Larry Wilson may be gone, but he'll not soon be forgotten, thanks in part to a sizeable bequest that has given Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, a new multi-function arts centre.

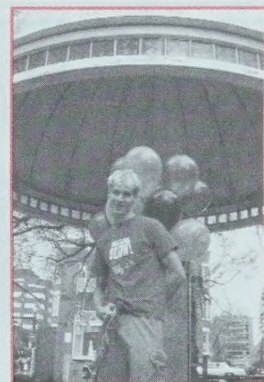


BARREL(S) OF FUN

B.C.'s Okanagan Valley is renowned for its rich bounty of agricultural products from apples to wine; now it's emerging stronger than ever as a must-see destination for gay and lesbian tourists.

COUNTRYWIDE PRIDE

Once again, Outlooks dips a toe in either ocean and runs from one side of the country to the other with event listings for Pride celebrations large and small.



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Dear *Outlooks*,

John Coulbourn has written one of the finest and most sensitive articles on Svend Robinson's tribulations that I have read thus far—I won't even comment on the hateful comments from the right-wing press.

Over the years, I have been a strong supporter of Svend in his fight for our community's basic rights and, unlike Mr. Coulbourn, recognized that sometimes "over-the-top" actions were required to fight not only entrenched homophobia but also basic opposition to general human rights. Ultimately, however, his greatest achievement perhaps has been, unwittingly, to show that all human beings, straight and gay, are capable not only of noble and courageous acts but, also, are vulnerable to human failure and weakness after years of great stress and pressure. To admit this with grace, as Svend has done, underlines his message that, in the end, we are all equal.

Hopefully, we have not seen the end of Svend's contribution to our political life.

P. Larocque

Ottawa

Hi *Outlooks*,

I'm a nineteen-year-old gay male residing in Calgary, Alberta. I was recently reading the news online at cbc.ca (as I usually do on my break at work) when I stumbled upon an anti-gay marriage article written by Real Women Canada in the "Viewpoints" section. Now, everyone has their opinions and freedom of speech, but this article absolutely disgusted me. There were statements made that were extremely discriminatory, and down-right insulting; I won't even begin to list them off, as there are too many to mention. What irritates me the most is that this anti-gay piece of literature was actually published on such a well-known news website as cbc.ca. Talk about mass dissemination of hate towards homosexuals.

Enough of my venting though. I'm e-mailing *Outlooks* in hopes that someone there with the talent might review this article, and perhaps write and publish another article showing how biased, discriminatory and stupid these people are. I have attached the link to the article on cbc.ca, as well as the website for the organization responsible for the piece.

I thank you in advance for your time and consideration, and look forward to perhaps receiving a response in regards to this e-mail.

C. Ryan

Calgary

Sites: www.cbc.ca/news/viewpoint/vp_landolt/ and www.realwomenca.com

The Editor Responds:

Many thanks for bringing the Real Women article on CBC's website to our attention. Though I agree that it is inaccurate, hateful and ridiculous, I have to bow to the larger issue of freedom of speech in this case. The "Viewpoints" section, like any other space reserved for editorializing or the sharing of opinions, is by its nature subject to such rants. As a publicly funded entity, the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation is charged with providing a forum for the views of all Canadians, regardless of how ill-informed or vicious they may appear to other citizens of this country. It seems to me that the purpose of running such an inflammatory piece was to generate discussion and debate on a subject that is still hotly contested (and will likely continue to be) in Canadian society. Therefore, I encourage all of our readers so inclined to visit the site and read the article in question, and then post their own opinions on the nature of Real Women's "factual" argument—particularly since an overwhelming number of responses in the feedback section seem to be in favour of Landolt's position. I think it's time we exercise our own freedom of speech—let's give 'em the discussion and debate they're looking for! And, while we're on the topic of "Real Women", am I the only one who thinks Gwendolyn Landolt looks like a tired old drag queen? Just wondering...

WE WANT YOUR LETTERS

Sign your name and include your address and phone number. All letters are subject to editing—and please, no more than 400 words. Write to:

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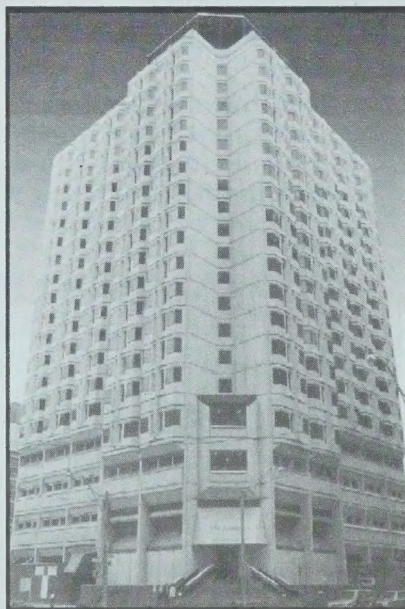
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Pride and politics in the air

By Roy Heale



Who could have expected that in the month of June (the traditional commencement of Pride celebrations across Canada) we would receive such a boon from Prime Minister Paul Martin? At the same time as we celebrate our culture-within-a-culture, we will now be able to cast our votes to support same-sex marriage legislation in the June 28 federal election. It is very likely that some politicians will want to waffle and avoid making this an election issue, but our collective effort is required to make sure all parties declare their intentions in this matter so we can cast our ballots accordingly. After all, it is estimated that Canada's GLBT population is approximately 2.5 million people strong, the majority of whom are eligible to vote. If we all take the time to question our local candidates as to where they stand on the equality issue of gay marriage, and support only those candidates in favour, the outcome of this election could defy the findings of any advance polls. In addition, if we extend this to our families, friends and co-workers, then it will be difficult for anyone to predict the outcome of this election.

This may seem idealistic but it really is completely up to you: this is still a democracy and every vote will count in every region of the country. Many will remember the election back in 2001, when the GLBT community rallied around Joe Clark, then the very progressive Conservative leader; as a result, he was able to defeat Calgary Centre's



Joe Clark riding in the Calgary Pride parade after his 2001 win

outcome.

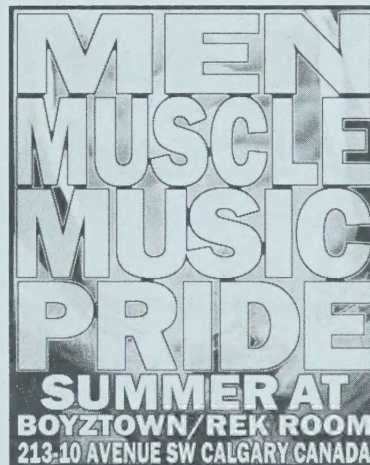
Among many other key issues, this one will have a definite effect on the possibility of same-sex marriage becoming a reality in the near future. Regardless of the Supreme Court's answers to the questions they are currently considering, any new same-sex

marriage act will still have to survive a vote in the House of Commons. The new government formed as a result of this election will surely have to face this issue within the next year, so now is the time to question the candidates and cast your vote accordingly. Even if you do not see gay marriage as an option for you, it is important to recognize that this is yet another step towards true equality for us in Canada. Let's all do our best to strike a victory on this issue, one that will surely make Canadian political history.

Also on the topic of getting involved, be sure to participate in your local festivities as the 2004 Pride celebrations begin to unfold this month. Our Official National Pride Guide (enclosed in this issue) will help you to learn about many of the events organized by volunteer committees across the country. It is the most comprehensive guide we've produced to date, but if you don't find listings for your own town or city, be sure to check with your local Pride group to find out what they have planned. Enjoy this coming season of Pride, celebrate with friends and family, and remember (amidst all the partying) to exercise your right to vote. After all, it's one of the equal rights you don't have to fight for!

Happy Pride from everyone involved with *Outlooks*. ▼

Visit www.equal-marriage.com for more details on how you can participate in the federal election.



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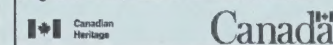
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God's on the ballot?

By John Coulbourn

It's been one hell of a battle—and it's not over yet, not by a long shot. In fact, there's still a whole war to fight, when and if we win this battle over same-sex marriages—and just in case you've been thinking that particular battle has already been won, think again. The other day, I had occasion to drive out into the southern Ontario countryside, an activity not altogether unpleasant in this breathtaking time of year, when it seems, at times, like there's been a little fold in heaven that has forced it to touch down on earth right in front of you.

Previous forays, however, have taught me (courtesy of signs painted on barn walls and stuck up amidst the fields of waving corn) that just as you are starting to think that this is in fact God's country, the God squad is going to slap you upside the head with a reminder that Christ is about to make a rather flashy return or, my particular favourite, "Abortion kills!" (to which I always want to reply, "Yeah, well so does the use of pesticides, and that doesn't seem to worry you!").

At any rate, it wasn't the signs that got me this time as I traversed the tranquil backroads of the province.

It was the radio ads—lots and lots of radio ads, in fact, calling on the faithful to rise up and protect the institution of marriage as a union between one man and one woman. Not surprisingly, considering the reforms in the election act, not to mention the fluency the right has developed for encoded speech, there was no particular political affiliation to these ads. The advertisers obviously trust in the faithful to figure out just where they should mark their ballot.

I mean, hell, if we can figure it out, so can they, I guess.

It's a campaign that, I suspect, is running on selected radio stations across the country as the election heats up, ensuring that the message reaches the "right" people in such a way that certain politicians who'd like us to think they've reformed, will never have to soil their skirts by wading into the bigotry and speaking out against the whole business of same-sex marriages. At least not while they're on the campaign trail.

So what?, you might be asking—particularly if you are one of the many gays or lesbians who think this whole business of same-sex marriage is a bit ridiculous anyway. And maybe it is, particularly if you are amongst those who have absolutely no interest in marriage and see it as a sell-out to straight values. But if you think that means you shouldn't support it, it seems to me that you're not only selling your community short, you're selling yourself short as well.

Consider: If gay people were being denied the right to live in a particular community, would you not fight to end such segregation and bigotry, even if you had no interest in living in that community? If gays were being denied health care, wouldn't you fight for our right to it, even if you're as healthy as a horse? If we were being denied the right to have our own clubs, wouldn't you be a trifle ticked?

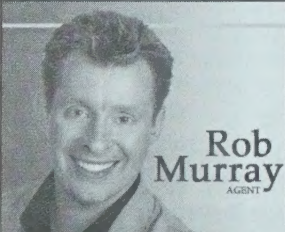
Ultimately, the fight that is going on right now is only marginally concerned with the gay community's right to wed in the eyes of the law, because it isn't marriage they want to deny us so much as it is equality.

And if you think that winning the right to marry is going to be the end of that battle, think again, because the fundamentalists arrayed against us are getting more sophisticated in their battle to ensure we all live our lives playing by their rule book.

And just in case you're planning on sitting this election out, think about this. Politicians across the country not only know that every single one of those fundamentalists will be marking their ballot come election day, they're counting on it.

"The Lord helps those who help themselves," according to what my folks taught me. And come election day, I'll be helping myself to a ballot as the next step toward equality. ▼

John Coulbourn is a native Albertan who lived for many years in Calgary. He now makes his home in Toronto, where he covers performing arts for the Toronto Sun.



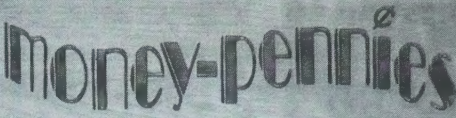
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Larry's legacy

By Peter Carlyle-Gordge

On Friday, June 18, Winnipegger Brent McVean will drive to Moose Jaw with half-a-dozen other gay men to see a dream of one of his late friends finally realized: the official opening of the new multi-million-dollar Arts and Cultural Centre.

McVean, a member of Winnipeg Gay Fathers and long a financial supporter of good causes in the GLBT community, was a friend of the late Larry Wilson, an actor, dancer, writer, producer and ultimately publisher of the highly successful *Trade and Commerce* magazine, a publication that focused on western business.

Without Wilson, the new Arts Centre likely wouldn't exist.

McVean was with Wilson when he died at age eighty-three in January 2002, while at his luxury condominium in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico. It was a stressful time and McVean ended up having a heart attack himself, but he recovered well and has found much of his time of late acting as executor of Wilson's estate, which was well over a million dollars.

Wilson grew up poor in the "Dirty '30s" in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan.

His mother, widowed early, brought up six children in poverty and ran a dance studio. All the Wilson children had some kind of singing, acting or dancing talent. One sister, Sylvia, ended up dancing and choreographing on the *Tommy Hunter Show*. She also had a radio program on which she sang, as did brother Gerry. One sister, Marlene, still

lives in Moose Jaw and runs a dancewear shop as well as teaching dance.

Sister Dorothy lives in London, Ontario, and owns McCulloch's, a dancewear supplier, as well as Moe's, a supplier of clown outfits and accessories.

Larry Wilson, the eldest child, never quite got over his childhood poverty. His father, a Northwest Mounted Police officer, died of cancer when he was young and the family was usually penniless. Larry became a great saver and something of a workaholic, sandwiching many jobs between his artistic interests.

Medically disqualified from active war service, he joined the Canadian Army Show and entertained troops in Europe, along with two budding novices known as Wayne and Schuster. His sister Dorothy also appeared with him in these shows. He loved to be in the limelight and was a good tap dancer.

After the war, he balanced a job as a CPR trainman with training to be an actor at the Alviene Academy in New York. He squeaked by for two years on a tiny army veterans' scholarship and worked for CPR in the summers.

Long an admirer of vaudeville—then a rapidly disappearing art form—Wilson realized acting and dancing would never provide a living, so he went into publishing. He did, however, always keep a finger in the "Arts pie" and was often producing or performing in early theatrical productions in Winnipeg.

He worked on early CBC Winnipeg radio dramas with movie actress Helene Winston, who died recently in Hollywood. He also danced with the Winnipeg Ballet in the days before it was Royal and counted the late choreographer Paddy Stone as a friend. And he was a regular performer at Rainbow Stage, Winnipeg's summer outdoor theatre.

He even performed in a couple of movies along the way, but live theatre was his abiding passion.

Wilson claimed to have visited every city, town and village in the four western provinces as he made long road trips selling advertising for *Trade and Commerce* magazine. Sometimes he learned his lines for some Winnipeg production in-between his sales calls.

His frugality even extended to noting on his expense report each dime he spent on washroom calls. He was a tenacious salesman for the magazine and over a long career—he worked to age seventy-five—turned it from an anaemic and poorly laid out business sheet into a full colour, glossy magazine which brought in more money than any of the other publications in the company's stable. Long the editor of *Trade and Commerce*, he was finally persuaded to accept the title of publisher by the owners.

Wilson never forgot his early poverty and was a compulsive saver, working long hours and often living frugally on his road trip expenses, while banking his pay cheques.

He never married and had many friends in the artistic and GLBT worlds. In his youth, lack of money and opportunity for talented young people had been a sore challenge, so, rather than leave his fortune to relatives, he decided to leave a perpetual gift for those who came after him.

"His mother died at age 102, in 1999, and he then had the idea of leaving his money to help the Arts," says longtime friend McVean. "He first decided to buy the old Capitol Theatre in downtown Moose Jaw and donate it to the city as the hub for a new Arts Centre. His idea was to have a theatre named after his mother, Mary [Mae] Wilson."

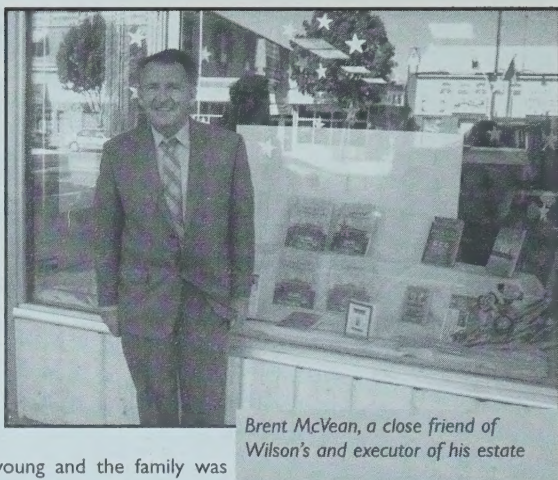
In fact, Mae Wilson and her talented brood had often performed in the old Capitol Theatre in bygone times; she played the piano and her offspring danced or sang in local productions. Mrs. Wilson was forever short of cash after early widowhood and she offered dance lessons to help put food on the table for her growing family.

Wilson kept his pledge and, in December 2000, paid \$350,000 for the theatre before handing it over to the Moose Jaw City Council.

That generous act proved a catalyst for a massive fundraising drive and for the implementation of plans long dreamed of by Arts In Motion, a local arts promotion group led by writer Gary Hyland. The city council commissioned a feasibility study and before long fundraisers were getting donations from corporate sponsors, governments and private citizens.

Originally, Wilson had simply envisioned a restored theatre,

continued opposite



Brent McVean, a close friend of Wilson's and executor of his estate



A portrait of Larry Wilson as a young man, taken at acting school in New York



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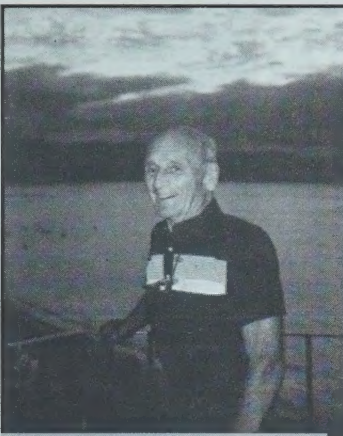
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A picture of Larry Wilson taken in Puerto Vallarta in 2001, shortly before his death

from previous

which he hoped would be named

after his mother, but the project grew, with two adjoining buildings being added to the Capitol Theatre.

In January 2003, construction began and Wilson's original gift has now been transformed into an \$8.3 million cultural centre, which includes the 440-seat Mae Wilson Theatre, as well as the Conexus Arts Centre and the McCaig Family Wing. The site includes an art gallery, offices, art studios, dressing rooms, meeting rooms and costume storage area.

Gordon Hall, a former manager of the Royal Alex and the Princess of Wales theatres in Toronto, has been appointed the first executive director of the new centre.

Added to Moose Jaw's casino, Temple Gardens Mineral Spa and Hotel, along with other new tourist attractions, it's hoped the new cultural centre will place Moose Jaw firmly on the tourism map.

Wilson remains the biggest single private individual donor, but his gift hasn't ended yet. Winnipeg friend Brent McVean has spent the past two years helping liquidate the estate. It has involved complex legal business in addition to selling the homes Wilson had in Winnipeg, Vancouver and Puerto Vallarta.

"Taxes, legal costs and settling other matters has eaten up quite a lot of capital, but I can safely say that Larry's estate will be donating over half-a-million dollars to fund scholarships for young people," he says. "When he needed help as a young man there was little available, so it's fitting that his money will provide opportunities for other young people to pursue Arts careers."

Six scholarships are being set up by a community foundation, with one named after each of the six Wilson siblings. They will be in drama, instrumentals, voice and dancing. The lobby of the new Arts center will also display a plaque acknowledging Wilson's crucial contribution and noting that the people of Moose Jaw "will be forever grateful for his vision and benevolence".

The grand gala opening is set for Saturday, June 19, with social leaders and assorted dignitaries in attendance. Prior to that, there will be a reunion of the four surviving Wilson siblings in a song and dance routine, likely the last they will do in their old Capitol Theatre stomping grounds.

Though Wilson didn't live to see his vision become reality, McVean says he will doubtless be there in spirit and his legacy will help many talented youngsters.

"Larry lived fairly frugally and his only indulgences were theatre visits and a couple of world cruises," he says. "The Depression and his early poverty had a deep effect on him, so he was cautious with money. Since he had no children to leave his money to, this seemed like the best way to create a lasting memorial and do the most good." ▼

Peter Carlyle-Gordge is a former Manitoba correspondent for Maclean's and The Financial Post. He has written for most major magazines and newspapers in Canada as well as broadcasting on the national and international networks of CBC Radio.

Note : Two years ago, Peter Carlyle-Gordge wrote a book on Larry Wilson and the Wilson family. It is entitled Lady Mary Of Mossley Hill (a reference to Mae Wilson) and is available in Moose Jaw at The Oak And Rose Book Shoppe, as well as at McNally Robinson Booksellers in Winnipeg.

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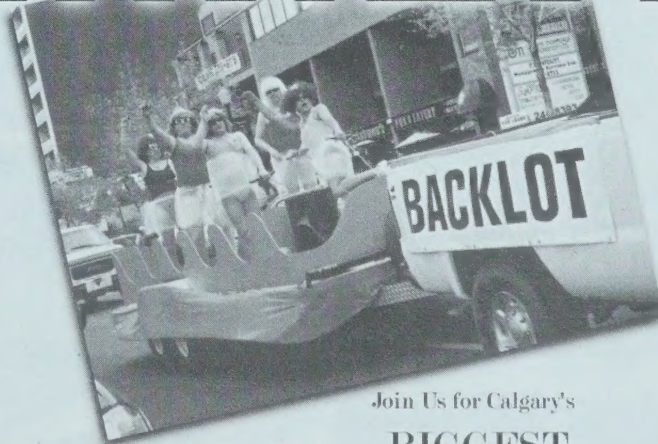


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Peaches and Cream Complexion?

Ummm...nope—looks more like Cool Whip to us. Empress IV, Stephanie Lane-Barr, looks a little “pie-eyed” after taking one in the kisser for charity.



Stop—I'm Gonna Pee My Bodystocking!

Hostess Joan Costalotsa doubles over with a big belly laugh in the course of her duties. Wait—did we say “big belly”? Oops...sorry, Joan...

Lovely Leather We're Having...

Peter, a guest from out-of-town, just happened to have a bit of leather with him, so he popped it on for the occasion. Bless 'im!



I Can Feel Your Piercing...Gaze!

Randy and Craig turn on the heat for the camera, among other things. You boys need some privacy?



Shameless Self-promotion
Is there any other kind? Alissa shows she's an old pro when it comes to working a crowd.



The Beat of a Different Strummer

Musician Matt Boisvert was on hand to lend some ‘licks’ to the proceedings. Now where was he when Canadian Idol rolled through town?!



Words to Live By
Alissa's girlfriend, Julie Penner, shared some of her poetry with the crowd as part of the evening's entertainment.

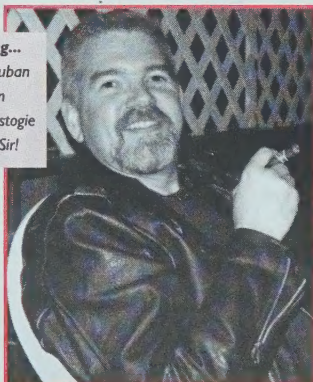


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Castro's Onto Something...
Now, does Carl mean the Cuban dictator or the district in San Francisco? Either way, that stogie is very “him”. As you were, Sir!



I'm Fine as Long as I Steer Clear of Smokers...

A be-wigged Carlos Las Vegas explains the finer points of scoring with an “afro-desiac”. C'mon—you had to know that was coming!



Smiles Are Free

The only thing sunnier than the day was Chris and Arthur's disposition. Mary, in the background, supplied to her famous egg salad sandwiches to the many volunteers. Top that, Tim Horton's!

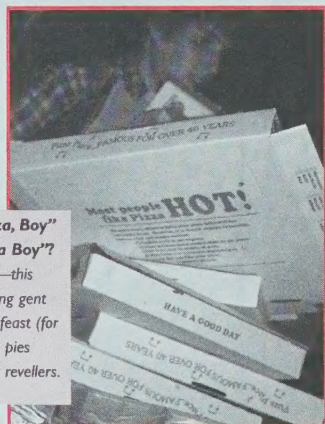


I'm Not Shoplifting!

Peter decided to free up his hands for bargain hunting by putting on the chef's hat he found. And here we thought Mr. Boyardee had retired in Winnipeg!

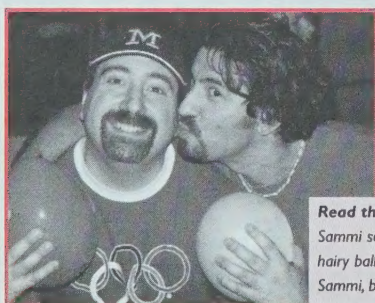


Is It “Hot Pizza, Boy” Or “Hot, Pizza Boy”?
Doesn't matter—this unidentified young gent was as much a feast (for the eyes) as the pies were for hungry revellers.



Read the Directions!

Sammi seems to be fixated on blowing up an odd-looking, hairy balloon named Mario. That's not where you blow, Sammi, by the way...



Baby 4 Sale—Cheap!
Actually, little Nicholas was so good that Kathy and Rene decided to keep him. Would you take five bucks for that hat, though?



DON'T YOU WISH?



Ralph is currently at Uxalen Country's house gathering food for the GLBT community and their friends.



Ralph

Photographed by David Chisholm at Uxalen & Justin Calmes

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Put on yer best duds—it's rodeo time!



By Greg Holsworth, ARGRA

The Eleventh Annual Canadian Rockies International Rodeo (CRIR) is coming to Calgary this July 2nd through 4th! Cute cowgirls, shirtless men and tight Wranglers—all in warm and sunny weather enough to make *anyone's* temperature rise. The Alberta Rockies Gay Rodeo Association (ARGRA) has been busy planning this year's CRIR since last September, and now we're in the final stages in producing the best-ever rodeo for competitors and spectators alike.

The CRIR is one of the most unique rodeos to be held on the International Gay Rodeo Association (IGRA) Bud Light Series Rodeo circuit, combining rodeo action, entertainment, dances, meals and an authentic western camping experience all in one place: Symon's Valley Ranch on the northern edge of Calgary city limits.

The CRIR is a great chance to come out and get involved, be it as a volunteer during the rodeo weekend; a rodeo competitor for your first, second, or eleventh time; or as a spectator. Here you can take in all of the sights, sounds and smells of the weekend—from chowing down on roast beef BBQ and shopping in our retail tent to enjoying the sights of men with beards wearing dresses for Wild Drag and dancing the nights away. Each of the thirteen rodeo events are open to both men and women and can be entered by anyone regardless of skill level and experience. There are always lots of folks around to help out a 'newbie'. (Please note that you must be at least eighteen years of age or over to compete). The thrill of competing in your first steer ride or lightning-fast flag race pattern cannot be described—they must be experienced. The "camp" events like Goat Dressing, Steer Decorating or the ever-popular Wild Drag Race provide a good opportunity to get involved in the lighter side of rodeo. Nothing is more fun than watching some muscled cowboys with moustaches putting on dresses and wigs and then jumping on the back of a cow. Some of the Wild Drag outfits that make an appearance are worth the price of admission alone! This year, organizers expect more competitors than ever, thanks in part to the teams that have been established here in Calgary.



Nucia Waste will bring his/her special brand of colourful comedy to the CRIR for the first time

A unique concept to the CRIR is that local businesses such as Money-Pennies Eatery and Bar, Metro Boytown/Rekroom and the Calgary Eagle have all established "teams" of rodeo competitors. There is even a rumour that a popular bar in Vancouver—The Pumpjack

Pub—will be at the CRIR with a team of their own this year! Each team's comradery is evident through the weekend with their smiles and brightly coloured shirts. Team membership is not a requirement to compete, but it has helped many people get involved. The Rodeo weekend starts on Friday with a Cabaret presented by ARGRA and Stuart Aikins Casting, featuring rising country music star Aaron Pritchett, with special opening guest, the outrageous comedian Nucia Waste. Both are sure to get the barn rocking—and that's only the first night! As alcohol is served at the dances, we can only admit those over the age eighteen. To wake up any tired cowhands in the morning, ARGRA also hosts a fantastic pancake breakfast each morning of the Rodeo weekend.

The Rodeo Grand Entry and Opening Ceremonies occur at noon on Saturday. The

Canadian flag flies high during the Opening Ceremonies along with the flag of our neighbours from the south. After the rodeo events in the afternoon, a fantastic western roast beef dinner is held for sellout crowds and is followed by one of the largest dances held in Calgary over the year: the PRIAPE Round-Up Dance. On Sunday, the rodeo action continues, followed by the Awards Ceremony and Money-Pennies Happy Trails Dance starting at 8 p.m.



Friday night headliner
Aaron Pritchett

The Rodeo is also a great opportunity for local vendors and community organizations to capitalize on exposure to over 3,000 folks coming to Symon's Valley Ranch for a great time. Our retail tent is part of our main gate, allowing all spectators the chance to learn about your organization and shop both Saturday and Sunday during the rodeo.

Camping at the Rodeo is one of the best times you'll have this summer, and there are showers and laundry facilities available to make "roughing it" a little less rough. Contact Symon's Valley Ranch at (403) 274-4574 to make reservations. For folks that think roughing it really is staying at a hotel with slow room service, rooms are also available at the Sheraton Suites Calgary Eau Claire at a reduced rate; call 1-888-784-8370 to book long-distance, or locally at (403) 266-7200. Don't forget to mention ARGRA or IGRA to get the special rate.

Tickets for the Rodeo are currently available and can be purchased with VISA or MasterCard by calling the ARGRA Ticket Hotline at (403) 938-7329. More information can be found on the ARGRA website at www.argra.org.

A large volunteer base makes this event happen every year, and organizers encourage anyone interested in volunteering during the weekend to contact them as soon as possible at volunteers@argra.org, or by calling the ARGRA Hotline at (403) 541-8140.

Play hard and be safe this Eleventh Anniversary Rodeo Weekend! ▼

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Conservative territory

By Lorne Bradley Neudorf



With over seventy percent of the population voting for a conservative party in 2000, Alberta is one of the most solid voting blocs in the country. The Canadian Alliance claimed twenty-three out of the twenty-six seats in the province in the last election. The three notable exceptions included Progressive Conservative leader Joe Clark in Calgary Centre, and Liberal cabinet ministers Anne McLellan and David Kilgour in Edmonton. The province will now fill two additional seats in the House of Commons after the 2004 federal election. The Liberals and New Democrats will campaign hard in an attempt to end the Conservative Party's lock on the province. Here are some of the key races to watch:

Calgary South Centre

Most of this new riding is carved out of Joe Clark's former district, including Calgary's downtown and Beltline regions. The gay and lesbian vote is expected to be influential in the outcome of this riding as it was in the previous federal election. Conservatives have nominated Lee Richardson, a former Member of Parliament from the Mulroney era. Although considered moderate, Richardson is likely to be hurt by his party's platform to remove the same-sex marriage reference before the Supreme Court. Pro-equality candidate Julia Turnbull has been energetically campaigning for the Liberals in the riding for over two years. After taking on the Liberal Party and ultimately winning the nomination, Turnbull hopes to receive the support of moderate voters. Outspoken gay activist and former provincial candidate Keith Purdy will represent the New Democrats on the ballot. Purdy spoke out in the media after the police raided a gay bathhouse in the riding, and has filed a complaint with the Alberta Human Rights Commission in an attempt to marry his partner.

Prediction: Without an incumbent, this riding is open for a steal; this is one to keep a close eye on.

Calgary West

Although significantly reshaped, Calgary West remains as one of the geographically largest ridings in the city of Calgary. Defending his past record, including the now infamous labeling of Nelson Mandela as a "terrorist", Conservative incumbent Rob Anders is seeking reelection after narrowly winning his party's nomination. An extreme opponent of equal marriage (his website lists preserving "traditional" marriage as his first priority), Anders' platform consists of purchasing new tanks, curtailing development aid and establishing a ballistic missile defense system. Challenging his re-election plans is young and articulate Liberal candidate Justin Thompson, with experience in environmentally friendly energy solutions. The New Democrats are fielding candidate Felicia Slogoski, who has been actively involved in the university's model United Nations team.

Prediction: Although Anders is viewed as an extreme candidate, it remains to be seen if Calgary West residents will choose any other party besides the Conservatives to represent them in Ottawa.

Edmonton Beaumont

Liberal cabinet minister David Kilgour is seeking re-election in the riding of Edmonton Beaumont. As a respected parliamentarian for twenty-five years, Kilgour is well liked in the most Liberal-friendly riding in the province. Conservative challenger Tim Uppal hopes to take the seat by building on his 2000 federal campaign as the Canadian Alliance candidate. His background includes extensive involvement in the community and four service awards. Paul Reikie has been nominated for the New Democratic Party. His education is in the field of environmental science, and he has written for the Parkland Institute on public interest research groups.

Prediction: Kilgour has the experience and popularity to win the riding without any significant difficulty. This is the Liberals' safest bet in the province.

Edmonton Centre

Incumbent and Deputy Prime Minister Anne McLellan is no stranger to close races. Nicknamed "Landslide Annie", she won her riding by a mere twelve votes in 1993. In the last election, 773 votes put her over the top. But can she do it again? McLellan will certainly benefit from redistricting, as most of the strong Liberal polls have been included in the new riding. However, the Conservative Party is praising the virtues of candidate and former Alliance member Laurie Hawn. As an air force fighter pilot with active community involvement, Hawn is seen as a formidable challenge to one of the most powerful cabinet ministers. It's clear that defeating the Deputy Prime Minister is a top priority for the Conservative Party. The New Democrats have nominated Meghan

McMaster as their preferred candidate.

Prediction: This riding is too close to call, and is likely to be a marginal victory for the winning candidate.

Lethbridge

Elected in 1997, Rick Casson represented the riding of Lethbridge for the Canadian Alliance. Now as the Conservative incumbent, Casson looks to the city of Lethbridge and the surrounding rural area for his support. High profile Liberal Dr. Ken Nicol has been selected as the Liberal candidate. As the former leader of the provincial party and three time elected provincial Liberal in Lethbridge East, Nicol will attempt to extend his provincial success to federal politics. New Democratic candidate and political science graduate Melanee Thomas is campaigning on a commitment to public healthcare and education.

Prediction: With its substantial rural population, Casson is widely expected to secure the riding of Lethbridge for the Conservative Party.

There are many important issues that should be considered as part of the decision making process of voting for a candidate. We have seen how collectively strategic voting can make a real difference in the outcome of a race. The upcoming election provides an opportunity for the gay and lesbian community to make their voice heard on the important issue of equal marriage. Opponents of equal marriage have started organizing voter drives as many consider the next election to be the one and only referendum on the contentious issue. To find out where your local candidate stands on equal marriage legislation, visit the Canadians for Equal Marriage website at www.equal-marriage.ca/. The group has rated candidates from coast to coast on their support of equal marriage legislation and provides access to their voting records. Send a strong message to Ottawa, and ensure that your voice is heard. ▼

Lorne Bradley Neudorf is a law student with a keen interest in politics.

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B.C.'s political melee

By Gerard MacMullin

If the run up to the federal election is any indicator, British Columbians should brace for a bitter campaign. Scandal, shifting loyalties, and a malleable nomination process have already derailed the careers of several prominent politicians—most notably NDP member Svend Robinson and Conservative Val Meredith.

Overall, B.C. remains strong Conservative country, and there's little reason to expect a major shift; the Conservatives hold twenty-seven of the province's thirty-four seats, leaving just five for the Liberals and two for the NDP. That lock on power would ordinarily suggest a routine campaign, but given B.C.'s penchant for dysfunctional politics, it's been anything but. And so far, none of the news has been good for the GLBT community.

The biggest blow came when a tearful Svend Robinson—Canada's first and most effective gay MP—withdrawn from the contest in his Burnaby-Douglas riding. Flanked by fellow New Democrat Libby Davies and partner Max Riveron, Robinson admitted he "pocketed" an expensive diamond ring at a public auction. It was a stunning end to a twenty-five year career.

Twelve short months ago he played the pivotal role in a justice committee vote that paved the way for Canada's first gay marriages. Robinson was so influential his presence was still being felt on Parliament Hill even after his abrupt exit. In what should have been a crowning moment in his long career, the Senate gave final reading to his private member's bill extending hate crime protection to homosexuals. Robinson, a fixture on the Hill for more than a quarter century, celebrated quietly a few blocks away.

The pre-election campaign has been no kinder to Liberal MP Hedy Fry, another high-profile friend of the community. After battling for months to eke out a victory for the Liberal nomination in her Vancouver Centre riding, the results were immediately challenged. Long-time Liberal supporter David McCann went to Vancouver Police with fraud allegations, claiming Fry supporters used backdated forms to sign up new members after nominations closed. Fry has denied the allegations.

The suggestion of a tainted victory is the last thing Fry needs heading into the election. There was surprise she was forced to fight so hard for her nomination in the first place, after victories in three consecutive federal elections. In her first outing in 1993, she defeated then-Prime Minister Kim Campbell.

While Fry was engaged in her do-or-die struggle, several other Liberal candidates in the Vancouver area were spared the effort—they were hand-picked to run by Prime Minister Paul Martin. Former NDP Premier Ujjal Dosanjh (Vancouver South), forest-products executive David Emerson (Vancouver-Kingsway), and public servant Shirley Chan (Vancouver East) were invited to run as "star" candidates.

Such appointments—Martin has named fourteen candidates across Canada—are a risky proposition at best. But they reflect particularly badly on a Prime Minister who promised to "do politics differently".

In Burnaby-Douglas, the entire Liberal riding executive resigned in protest when the nomination was handed to Bill Cunningham, a staunch Martin supporter and president of B.C. wing of the Liberal Party of Canada. Tony Kuo and Tony Lee—two Asian-Canadian candidates who filed nomination papers months ago—cried discrimination when denied the opportunity to compete.

Another disappointment for the GLBT community was the failure of former B.C. Human Rights Commissioner Mary Woo Sims to win the NDP nomination in



Dr. Hedy Fry addressing the crowd at Vancouver Pride



Canadian political pioneer Svend Robinson

Vancouver-Kingsway. The prominent lesbian activist was seen as a fresh face with huge potential on the national political stage. She was defeated by Ian Waddell, a former provincial cabinet minister who also served fourteen years in Parliament.

And there were other major upsets, including the surprise defeat of two popular B.C. Conservatives—Val Meredith and Chuck Cadman.

Three-term MP Meredith lost her riding nomination in Surrey-White Rock-Langley in a bitter fight with newcomer Russ Heibert. It was a stunning defeat for Meredith, a founding member of the Reform Party, who blamed her loss on the religious conservatives who backed Heibert.

Two-term Surrey North MP Chuck Cadman lost his nomination to Jasbir Cheema, a former news anchor who signed up about fifteen hundred new members from the Indo-Canadian community. Cadman quit the Conservative Party and will run as an independent.

There were scuffles and shouting matches as Richmond Liberal MP Joe Peschisolido—a former Conservative who crossed the floor—lost his nomination to former Chrétien cabinet member Raymond Chan.

On Vancouver Island, three-time Conservative MP Keith Martin quit his party and wants to run as a Liberal. Martin is at odds with party leader Steven Harper's socially conservative views on several key issues, including the war in Iraq, drug policy and same-sex marriage.

The infighting caused by "instant members" stacking nomination meetings is something Conservative leader Harper wants to stop. He told a meeting in Coquitlam he would also end the practice of handpicking candidates and bypassing the wishes of local riding associations.

The election will bring much sound and fury, but little real change.

This is the province, after all, that sent high profile right-wingers like John Reynolds, Randy White, Chuck Strahl and Stockwell Day to Ottawa. Outside of Vancouver, British Columbia remains one of the most conservative areas anywhere in Canada. No one expects those deep-seated attitudes to change over the next few weeks. ▼

Gerard MacMullin is a writer/broadcaster who lives in Vancouver's West End.

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No easy seats

By Peter Carlyle-Gordge

According to the latest COMPAS national polling results, the NDP is almost in a dead heat with the Liberal Party in both Manitoba and Saskatchewan, with the Liberals scoring thirty-five percent of committed voters, the NDP

getting thirty-two percent and the Conservatives in third place at twenty-seven percent.

That same poll finds Canadians are in a negative mood, with seventy-six percent believing the Liberals are guilty of mispending tax dollars. Voters also believe taxes are too high and the government has responded weakly to threats of terrorism. In addition, forty-five percent of those polled believe this election is being held too soon.

The COMPAS poll, done for the *National Post*, says the Liberals will almost certainly be in a minority government, the first since 1980. Nationally, the poll finds they have thirty-nine percent of voters, with the Conservatives at thirty-one percent. In Quebec, the Liberals trail the Bloc Quebecois.

One interesting riding in Winnipeg is Charleswood-St. James, where longtime Liberal MP John Harvard has stepped down to make room for recently resigned Winnipeg Mayor Glen Murray. Harvard was all set to run again but a deal with Paul Martin has him stepping down to become the next Lieutenant Governor. Mayor Murray, now resigned, was thus parachuted in and chosen unopposed as the Liberal candidate.

But Murray, an openly gay man, isn't likely to find the fight an easy one. He has no connection with the riding and is seen by many as an opportunistic lightweight who has stepped on too many toes in a search for personal grandiosity.

More specifically, he is seen as an anti-suburban mayor whose chief focus in office was on promoting the downtown area at the expense of the suburbs. He is also on record as having opposed the construction of the Charleswood Bridge, a commuter link that had been demanded by local residents for years. Others point to the neglect of streets and the overspending on pet projects such as a new Provencher Bridge, as well as the large amounts spent on street parties.

Murray is promising to promote health care, a better federal deal for cities and, surprisingly for him, stronger support for Canada's military. His riding has a substantial military component and the Liberal Party is generally seen as the culprit for years of cutbacks and underfunding, so Murray's sudden conversion to being a military supporter is seen for what it is: a Johnny-come-lately ploy to win some military votes. That isn't likely to happen. As an editorial in the *National Post* commented recently: "Murray's a fanatic about getting a sweeter funding deal for cities. His election victory is no guarantee, being a riding in soccer-mom suburbia while he's a trendy gay guy from the inner city, but he'll have the Martin machine revving at full throttle behind him. His probable fate: Minister Responsible for Cities, forced to tell his former mayoralty colleagues he can't afford to meet his own former mayoral demands."

But first he has to win a seat and that will be no cakewalk. A spokesman for the Conservative candidate, Steven Fletcher, twice elected as the provincial president of the party, says in the last election Liberal John Harvard got 13,901 votes, with the Conservative garnering 9,991 and the Alliance getting 11,569. "If you add the Alliance and Conservative votes, the Conservative candidate has a three to two advantage," the spokesman tells *Outlooks*. "The feedback we are getting is that Mr. Murray was an

unpopular mayor so our candidate has an excellent chance of winning."

Fletcher's chances are considered good, even though he is confined to a wheelchair following an accident and is paralyzed from the neck down. As he noted on a recent radio interview: his body is only paralyzed from the neck down, not up. He has his wits fully about him and is campaigning hard. But he isn't as well known as Murray.

University of Manitoba political scientist Dr. Paul Thomas doesn't think Murray should be discounted unless there is a very strong anti-Liberal trend in the election. "His Conservative opponent has a fairly low profile, whereas Glen Murray is well known and has considerable charisma and dynamism," Thomas offers. "He has been eloquent on important city issues and has a personal following. If the Conservatives had chosen a stronger candidate the Liberals might well have lost the seat, but I wouldn't say it's lost yet."

Thomas also thinks the redistributed seat of Winnipeg North Centre is worth watching. NDP MP Judy Wasylycia-Leis will be facing off against Liberal Dr. Rey Pagtakhan. "The NDP M.P. has a high profile because of her work on the committee investigating the Adscam affair, but Filipino Dr. Pagtakhan has a very strong organization and many ethnic connections," says Thomas. "He is also known as a hard worker so it's possible he could win."

The other seat Thomas will be watching is NDP MP Pat Martin's Winnipeg Centre constituency. David Northcott, a well-known local organizer for Winnipeg Harvest, the main food bank, is running against him for the Liberals.

"Both Murray and Northcott would seem like a natural choice as NDP candidates, but perhaps they thought the prospects of having power were better running for the Liberals," Thomas says. "Both certainly have a chance but much depends on how strong a national swing there is against Liberals in the election."

He thinks a minority Liberal government very possible but hasn't ruled out a Paul Martin majority government. "This election will really be about leadership and if Martin can distance himself from the scandals and get into full swing he may still come across as the best leader for the country."

Longtime GLBT activist Chris Vogel also thinks the fight in Winnipeg Centre will be interesting and was equally surprised that Northcott would run as a Liberal rather than for the NDP. "I think it very likely we will end up with a minority Liberal government, relying on the votes of the NDP to keep going," says Vogel. "That worked fine in the past and we got some good results, so I would be happy to see it again. Both Pat Martin of the NDP and David Northcott of the Liberals are positive on GLBT issues, so it makes little difference which one wins."

Vogel thinks Glen Murray will have an uphill battle trying to win a seat in suburban Charleswood, though he points out that Murray did cut city property taxes and achieved a few other goals, including the official raising of the Rainbow flag at City Hall for Pride Week. "The riding he is running in has had Conservative members in the past, so it is possible it could go back to that," says Vogel. "On the other hand younger, more liberal voters have also moved into the riding in recent years, so you never know. It won't be easy for him to win, though."

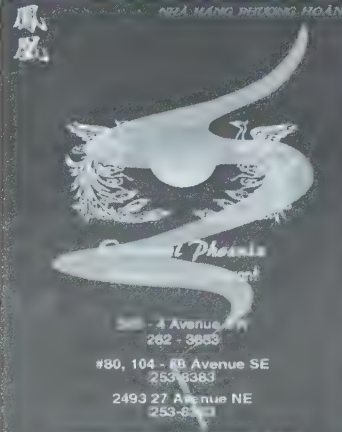
The federal Liberals have been showering Winnipeg with money of late, hoping to improve their chances. Winnipeg is to be home for Canada's equivalent of Atlanta's Centre For Disease Control and there have been many other funding announcements and promises hoping to sway or bribe voters.

NDP private polling shows Manitoba still has a strong support base for the federal party, but the campaign itself and the quality of leadership shown may be the decisive factor in deciding which party wins or loses most.

Liberal mismanagement, theft of public funds and expensive boondoggles such as the gun registry will certainly provide welcome ammunition for both the Liberals and Conservatives. ▼

Peter Carlyle-Gordge is a former Manitoba correspondent for *Macleans* and *The Financial Post*. He has written for most major magazines and newspapers in Canada as well as broadcasting on the national and international networks of CBC Radio.

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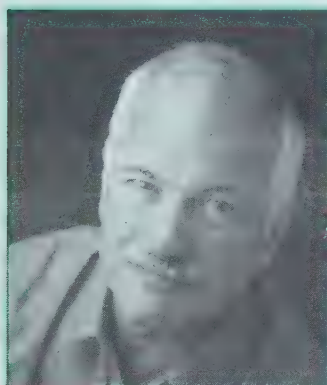
A shifting landscape

By John Tomlinson

Right now, there's one thing Stephen Harper, leader of the newly minted Conservative Party of Canada could use. And no, it's not a major injection of tranquilizers (although that would go a long way, in his new TV ads, toward keeping him from looking like a straight man in his proctologist's waiting room). And such an injection sure couldn't hurt. It's not even a cattle prod, which might be the only thing that's likely to keep some of the more colourful members of his caucus from letting their bigotry run wild as they prepare for the forthcoming federal election.

No, the thing Harper could use right now is a good recipe for crow, because in order to get elected, one suspects, he'll be dining largely on it, even while he's hot on the rubber chicken circuit over the next few weeks. And nowhere more so than here in Ontario, where Harper—the man, lest we forget, who once suggested a firewall to protect Alberta from the good folks of Upper Canada—knows full well he must make major strides if his party is to shake the image of being nothing more than the Reform Party in pantyhose. If he can't win a few seats in Ontario, then where? The man is all but unknown in Quebec and is still reeling throughout the Maritimes for engaging his mouth before his mind was in motion.

Question is, can he do it? Probably. Pundits in this province suggest he just might pick up as many as twenty seats in this province, largely courtesy of leadership rivals Tony Clement and Belinda Stronach and their ilk—politicians perceived by Reform-leery Ontarians as being more moderate than many of Harper's unrepentant and un-Reformed bully boys.



NDP Leader Jack Layton

And while one would like to credit Joe Clark with Ontario's reluctance to take Harper and his gang at face value (and dear God, what a face) the truth of the matter is that when Clark made his now notorious "Harper's bizarre" speech endorsing Paul Martin, he was only giving voice to what many one-time conservatives in this province had been feeling that all along. The perception here is that the so-called Red Tories—the small 'c' conservatives who favoured a mix of fiscal conservatism and liberal social policy—had abandoned the old Progressive Conservative Party long before Peter McKay made like a drunken debutante and hopped into bed with Harper and the Rocky Mountain boys. So, although wise minds on the right are trying to drum up some sort of enthusiasm for the fight between Harper and Martin here in Ontario, it is actually the

fight between Martin and Jack Layton, the heretofore so seatless leader of the New Democratic Party, that promises to generate some of the strongest adrenaline in Ontario's body politic this election.

Right off the top, in his quest for a seat in the House of Commons, Layton is taking on long-time Liberal member Dennis Mills in the Toronto riding they both call home—and it is anything but a slam-dunk for either of them. Layton, lightly dismissed in some circles as a left-wing flake, actually has quite a following here in Toronto and, in view of the fact that Mills has a proven track record as a flake on any wing (he came up with the brilliant

idea that a Rolling Stones concert was just what Toronto needed to get over SARS, when everyone else on the planet knew being reimbursed for the medical costs would have been the right and proper first step), it should be a colourful contest. Throw in the fact that Mills has been a vocal opponent of same-sex marriage (although he seems to be hoping right now that we'll all forget about that), and it's clear where the lavender vote is likely to go.



Sheila Copps in happier times

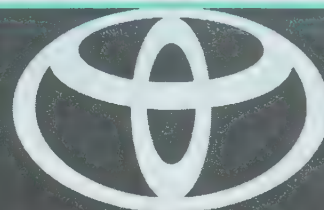
In other ridings, the best Martin seems to have been able to come up with is Ken Dryden, the rather colourless executive with the Toronto Maple Leafs organization, whereas Layton has recruited people like former NDP leader Ed Broadbent, social activist Michael Shapcott and even Layton's own wife, another well-respected civic leader, Olivia Chow. Meanwhile, having sent most of the truly liberal members of his caucus—Sheila Copps and Maria Minna, to name but two—to Coventry and having alienated many of Chrétien's followers, Martin seems to have effectively turned the portion of the Liberal party with a social conscience over to Layton on a silver platter.

Further, Martin's facing an Ontario electorate still reeling from the shock and awe of Liberal premier Dalton McGuinty's first budget—a budget which, after years of Mike Harris and his "I'm okay, Jack" band of cut-throats, demands that Ontarians actually reach into their pockets to save programs like health care and education. As elections go, this one's tough to call, here at the centre of the world, but it just might be that if Layton and Martin have to hop into the sack together to form a minority government, it will be the voters of Ontario who will be holding the shotgun.

John Tomlinson is a freelance journalist who lives in the busy suburb of Collingwood. His most recent book, "The Politics of the Heart," is available from the publisher, The Heart of the Matter.



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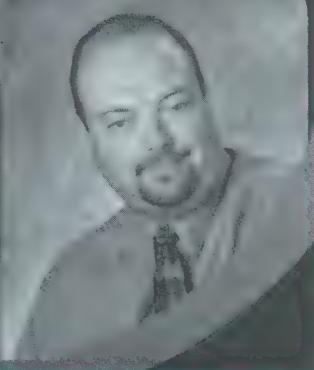
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Set to Bloc?

By Brad Malmberg

So, here it is, already June and we're having the wettest, Vancouverest spring on record. The Habs are out of the playoffs, health care is still a mess and the Liberals are about as popular as horseflies at a wedding, despite having

the common sense to embrace both marijuana and gay marriage. At a time when all but one of the major leaders (I use the term loosely) have publicly supported the notion of same-sex marriage—and most have supported the decriminalization of pot—it would seem we have it pretty good north of the 49th. Maybe a one-party state isn't as bad as it sounds. But then you look at the people at that party and you begin to wonder if they don't need chaperones. Between Sheila blubbering that she was 'done in', Martin pointing more fingers than he owns blaming others for Adscam, including Chrétien (or was it Mulroney?), and Charest's endless bumbling of issues like daycare fees and union relations, these Grits seem almost as fried as the potheads they're trying to break out of the pokey.

Not surprisingly, support for the Bloc Québécois has surged, despite registering at near-death levels in polls only a few months ago. An Ipsos-Reid poll recently showed the Liberals plummeting to thirty percent of Québec's popular vote, while the Bloc would receive forty-five percent if an election were held. This swing has much less to do with the leadership of the BQ, which has been almost as unfocused as that of the now-defunct Alliance (or was it Reform?), and much more to do with a rolling boil of dislike for Charest since his election last year. For its part, the Bloc stands on the right side of the fence, so to speak, in terms of GLBT concerns. Led by Gilles Duceppe, the party has an impressive record of supporting bills like C-250 (increased protection for gays and lesbians from hate speech) and C-23 (marriage equality), and are rated as having an eight-five percent grade by EGale, compared to the Liberals' sixty-six percent. While their ultimate agenda of Québécois sovereignty has lost its teeth for the time being, and the Conservative party's newfound popularity will likely win them enough seats to hang onto their position as Opposition, it is comforting to know that

this province's most popular party is one of the most gay-friendly on the ballot. However, compared to the United States, what we have is almost an embarrassment of riches in terms of support from our politicians, despite the chest-pounding of Harper and crew.

Currently, of Québec's seventy-five seats out of 308 in the House of Commons, the Liberals hold thirty-seven, compared to the Bloc's thirty-three (the others are independent). It is difficult to overstate the importance of this province in the realm of federal politics—consider that of the last thirty-five years of prime ministerial rule, only sixteen months have been by non-Québeckers. The most interesting and uncomfortable pieces of our national identity come from our history as a nation of two cultures, each as relevant as the other. And as easy as it may be for the west to dismiss the Bloc Québécois, there is no denying their place on the national scene. During their tenure from '93 to '97, led by Lucien Bouchard, the Bloc acted as our country's official Opposition, and saw the October '95 referendum on sovereignty squeak by with a one percent margin. Since then, the popularity of the Bloc in Québec has diminished substantially, but the upcoming election will undoubtedly see the party win back many of the seats it has lost since 1997. From at least one perspective, this is good news—they are definitely gay-friendly and will support initiatives behind equal marriage and protection from discrimination.

Some of the key ridings involve the major players from the Liberal party. Mr. Martin himself runs in the Montréal jurisdiction of Lasalle-Emard, against featherweight Thierry Larrivée of the Bloc, and will have no problem winning his seat for the fifth consecutive time. The Conservatives aren't even bothering to run there. Trois-Rivières, on the other hand, is expected to be a closer call, with all three major candidates running for the first time. Minister of Industry Lucienne Robillard should clean up Westmount easily enough, as it is one of the few Liberal strongholds, and her strong record on same-sex issues makes her dubious claims on the sponsorship scandal easier to swallow. Similarly, Health Minister Pierre Pettigrew should keep a lock on Papineau, which has remained loyal to the Grits through thick and thin. In the riding of Louis-Hébert, on the other hand, things are less sure. In 2000, Hélène Scherrer, the Minister of Canadian Heritage, only won by four percent of the vote. Since then, she has voted in favour of the Alliance motion to define marriage in exclusively opposite-sex terms, so it will be interesting to see if she can beat journalist Roger Clavet and hang onto her seat—and, if so, will she tow the party line in regards to the vows that dare not speak their name? Another riding of note is Mount Royal, in which the Bloc seems to be throwing sacrificial lamb Vincent Gagnon at the mercy of Irwin Cotler, Minister of Justice and very gay-positive in his voting history. Likewise, Francois Rebello from the Bloc has a snowball's chance against Liberal Jean Lapierre in Outremont, who will need little buttress in this overwhelmingly anglo riding. However, the BQ has many, many 'gimmies' in the outlying regions, and the lay of the land after this election is anyone's guess at this point. Then, to thicken the plot, Scherrer distributed a list of 'women-only' ridings, including Laurentides-Labelle, Charlevoix, and St. Maurice, which were thought to be 'winnable', presumably to ensure Liberal female representation in the House.

So, by funneling a mere \$100M to Québec advertising firms over the past five years and then getting caught, the Liberals have wasted any goodwill they may have generated here and breathed new life into a party many had left for dead. In the February 13 edition of the *Globe and Mail*, columnist John Ibbittson quoted an anonymous source that the staff of Prime Minister Martin was displeased with "the ancient and dishonorable tribalism of Québec politics", a baseless suckerpunch, which, understandably, is what got everyone here in such a froth.

As far as gay weddings go in this country, the invitations are practically mailed out. And I must admit, these days I'm missing the characters of the Wild West—no rootin', tootin' Stephen Harper, no Ralphie the red-nosed premier. No Gordon Campbell swerving off the road on the volcanoes of Hawaii, no Svend Robinson, no Hedy Fry, no Stockwell Day. Instead, Québeckers get Gilles Duceppe and Paul Martin, stiff suits who'd never even dare strangle a protester. Ho hum. With all the colourful showdowns going on in the good ol' U.S. of A., it's almost a shame every Canadian and their dog seems so on-board with same-sex marriage. That is, if it weren't so damn overdue. ▼

Brad Malmberg is an ex-Vancouverite and Calgarian who now lives in Montreal.

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Word on the street

By Randall Perry

Artistotle wrote that by nature, man is a political animal. The fourth-century BC philosopher would probably feel very much at home in the Maritimes twenty-five centuries later. As much as some of us may suggest otherwise, we Maritimers are passionate about our politics.

There has been a great deal of teasing coming out of Ottawa over the past few months. Will Prime Minister Paul Martin call a spring election? A fall one? Somewhere in between? Indications are that Canadians will be going to the polls at the end of June, so with that in mind I set out to roam the streets of downtown Halifax to find out what issues are first and foremost in the minds of the electorate.

First let me state that I am not a pollster, nor do I aspire to the profession. When you're an ordinary-looking guy brandishing a small silver box on a busy street, the certainty of being passed and ignored by potential interviewees is accurate to within five percentage points, nineteen times out of twenty. When I *did* manage to talk to people, I observed out of the corner of my eye a fair few crossing the street to avoid being pulled into my tape recorder's sphere of influence. But I digress.

The issues are diverse and familiar. The skyrocketing price of gasoline is a major concern for the majority of people I spoke with. As of the third week of May, the price of regular self-serve in Halifax is 99.9¢ per litre, and since the provincial government seems powerless to do anything about it, the issue should be taken up at the federal level. One young woman told me that she just took delivery of her new Mazda 6 after six anxious weeks of waiting—she has been driving, but not zoom-zooming, and has taken to using the public transit to get to work.

The federal sponsorship scandal may have dropped from immediate sight in the news media, since the prisoner abuse scandal in Iraq and its consequences are now dominating the public consciousness, but the memory of apparently missing money is still strong. The revelation that much of the funding ear-marked for the Bluenose II Preservation Trust has gone missing did not sit well with many Nova Scotians and some will be taking this into

account when marking their ballots. For the most part, the people I spoke with just want the whole mess dealt with, wrapped up and put away—hopefully with checks and balances in place so that something of this nature will not happen again.

Military spending and unemployment are also on the minds of people on the street. With uncertainty over the safety of Canadian ports in times of increased terrorist activity, an increase in military spending to defend Canada from acts of terror is a priority. A young man who recently found himself on the E.I. roll after his technology job was outsourced wasn't very interested in leaky submarines and helicopters that fall out of the sky. For him, the issue at hand was his ability to pay for post-secondary education and his mortgage.

Taxes—too high—and funding for health care and social programs—too low—are once again issues occupying a prominent place on the political stage and opinions are divided on how to deal positively with one without compromising the other. With one couple I spoke with, each half had a completely opposite take: she said, raise taxes and put more money into health care and social programs; he said, lower taxes and increase user fees all around. They were still arguing the fine points ten minutes after I thanked them and ducked into a local coffee shop to avoid the rain. I hope their marriage is as interesting as their differences of opinion.

Speaking of marriage... I couldn't let the deliciously vexatious issue of same-sex marriage slip by, so I brought it up with everyone. I wanted to know, now that same-sex marriage is legal in three provinces (and, south of the border, Massachusetts began marrying same-sex couples on May 17), how will Parliament deal with this issue during an election campaign? Predictably, same-sex marriage is still a hot-button issue for most people, no matter where the opinion falls.

The people I spoke to on the street and in the coffee shop—where I put away my tape recorder and just struck up a few conversations—are mostly in favour of same-sex marriage but doubt that anything will be accomplished anytime soon. I managed to elicit a few of the stock responses from those opposed: same-sex marriage will lead to the downfall of the family; same-sex marriage is just a prelude to allowing people to marry their pets. A very well-dressed gentleman quoted one of my personal favourites, "God made Adam and Eve not Adam and Steve." He looked me over for a minute, squinted,

then asked, "You're not one of them, are you?"

"How do we know for certain that Adam and Steve weren't the couple next door?" I responded. "After all, the Garden of Eden was said to be perfect. Now, the Garden of Prada... there's perfection."

One question of mine that couldn't be answered with any conviction, however, was, "Whom do you think is best suited to be Prime Minister? Martin? Harper? Layton? Duceppe?" The opinions seemed evenly split between "Whoever will do the least damage to the country" and "Better the devil you know."

For the small cross-section of the Halifax electorate I encountered, all shared one thought: quit talking about the election and just call it—then let us enjoy our summer. After months of dealing with the aftermath of Hurricane Juan and mountains of snow, it's time for a well-deserved break. ▼

Randall Perry is a freelance writer living in Halifax.





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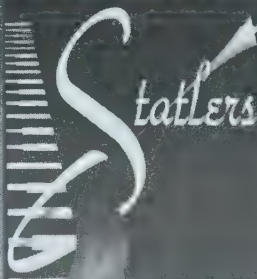


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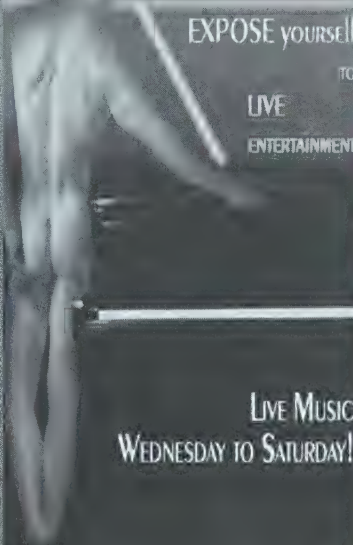


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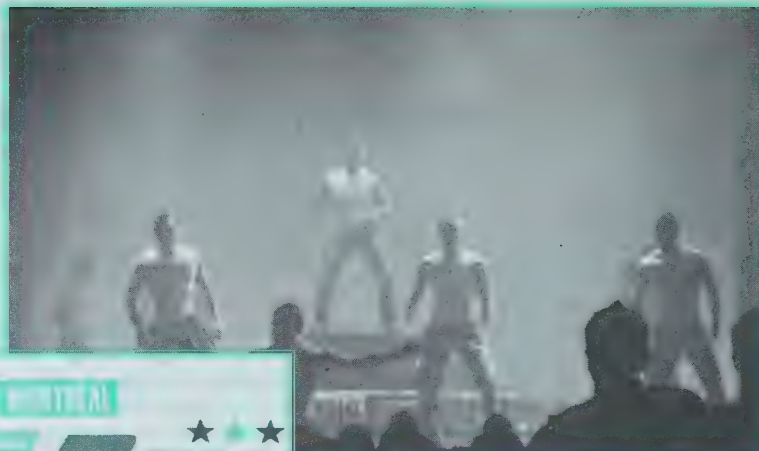
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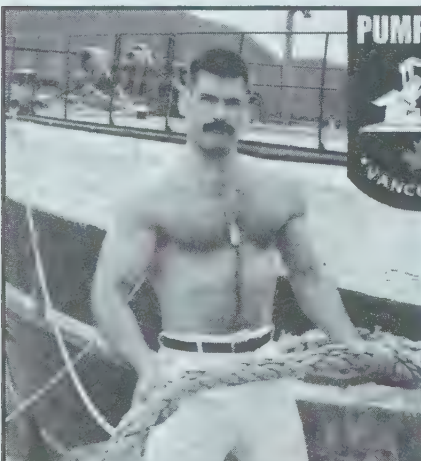
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Fathering a cause

By Randall Perry

Doug Melanson had his first encounter with Halifax, Nova Scotia, in 2002 when the Ottawa resident and his then-fourteen-year-old daughter decided to spend some time travelling during her summer vacation. Two years later, Melanson now lives in this Ottawa-esque city on the Atlantic shore and loves every minute of it. It's a return to the Maritimes for the gay businessman—born in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, he spent a number of years in Bathurst, New Brunswick, before moving on to Brampton, Ontario, then Ottawa, where he spent fourteen years before deciding to make the move back to the east coast.

Melanson is the founder of Gay Fathers of Halifax, a volunteer-driven support group that provides support to gay and bisexual fathers who are going through challenging times in their lives. At its core, the group exists for peer discussion and sharing of experiences, both good and bad.

After his divorce in the early 1990s, Melanson moved from Bathurst to Brampton, where he first picked up a copy of *Xtra!*, Toronto's bi-weekly gay/lesbian paper, to find out, as he puts it, "what the gay world was all about and what supports were out there". He ran across an ad for the group Gay Fathers of Toronto. He called the number and found out where the next meeting was being held and showed up.

Melanson's attendance at the meeting was fortuitous, for there he met a man who would prove to be a far-reaching influence on his life. The man's name was Gerry Bryant, and his journey, although similar in theme to Melanson's, was very different in practice. Whereas Melanson had had a relatively smooth ride through his separation and divorce, with support from his family and friends, Bryant's was fraught with all sorts of difficulty. A businessman raised in a strict Baptist background, Bryant found himself alone after his coming out. His grandmother was the only family member not to reject him after his divorce was final.

Melanson and Bryant became lovers and remained so until Melanson decided to move from Brampton to Ottawa six months later to be closer to his daughter. After the move, Melanson immediately sought out a support group for gay fathers. He learned that one had existed but had lapsed due to lack of interest. He connected with the group's key people and Gay Fathers of Ottawa was launched in late 1991.

It was during a stopover in Toronto en route to San Francisco some months later that Melanson called Bryant to wish him a happy birthday and found out that his former lover had taken his life. The struggle had proved too much. Melanson made a promise to himself that he would not live in a city without a support group for gay fathers, that he would create one if it didn't exist. If he could help it, there would be no more unhappy endings.

Shortly after moving to Halifax, Melanson discovered that there was no support group for gay fathers in the city and decided to put one together. While attending an informal gathering in Halifax last spring, he met Susanne Litke, a lawyer with Dalhousie Legal Aid Services who is active in the Family Pride Camping Association, which provides summer camp experiences to children of GLBT parents. After hearing Melanson's pitch for a gay fathers' group for Halifax, Susanne offered the fledgling organization a meeting space at the Dalhousie Legal Aid office. "There are a number of terrific lawyers in the Halifax area who work well with the gay and lesbian community," says Melanson. "Susanne has been a great resource in moving Gay Fathers of Halifax forward."

Founded in April, 2003, Gay Fathers of Halifax is now a little over a year old. The group has close to fifty members and each monthly meeting draws about a dozen or so participants from all walks of life. In the more than fifteen years Melanson has been involved with various gay fathers' groups, he has encountered fathers who have come out in their sixties, having said nothing to their wives and children; men who have come out in their early twenties, many of whom had pregnant wives or girlfriends; men from all professions, from doctors, lawyers and politicians, to mechanics, construction labourers and short-order cooks. The common thread with all these men is that they are either gay or bisexual—and all are fathers. Melanson stresses that it's important that gay fathers know where each is coming from because regardless of the situation, be it positive or negative, the experience of parenthood is shared among them.

Throughout the year, with the exception of the summer months, guest speakers are invited to the monthly meetings to speak to the members on various topics of interest. Many of the subjects have some sort of focus on being a gay father, but just as many deal with issues pertaining to men in general and gay men in particular. Topics discussed include drawing up a will, power of attorney, same-sex marriage, legal issues surrounding divorce, family law, men's health and safer sex. Recent guest speakers have included Dr. Rod Wilson, a medical practitioner specializing in gay men's health and primary care for HIV patients, who spoke on general health issues; and Dr. Blye Frank and his partner, Jim Oulton, who spoke to the group about the impact of stress on personal well-being, the personal challenges of divorce and the finer points of integrating a new partner into the existing parent-child relationship. The primary objective of this exercise is to build an ongoing pool of resources on which gay fathers can draw. A website, an initiative taken on by a member, is also under continued development.

During the summer months, speaker-oriented meetings are replaced with informal socials, which either take the form of social outings or potlucks held at members' homes. Melanson emphasizes that, although the support group environment is certainly advantageous for discussing issues within a structured setting, socials are important for networking—making new friends and reacquainting with old ones. They allow for sharing of individual stories and experiences.

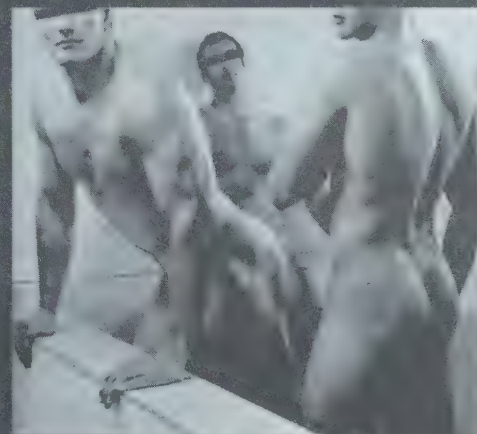
Although Gay Fathers of Halifax is a relatively new group, Melanson is proud of its accomplishments thus far and is confident in its continued growth. The challenge faced by the group, he explains, is no different than those faced by other volunteer-driven groups: there is always a need for individuals to step forward and take on positions of responsibility. As long as there are gay fathers, there will be a need.

Even in 2004 there is a stigma attached to being a gay parent, but perceptions and circumstances are changing for the better. Gay fathers now have better access to their children and have more of a say when it comes to shared custody. Melanson considers himself lucky that he was able to come out in a relatively accepting environment. His family is supportive of him as a gay man, and he has a good relationship with his daughter and ex-wife. Melanson knows that most gay men in his situation are not so fortunate. This knowledge fuels his resolve to contribute his time and energy to furthering the development of the group. All e-mail correspondence from Gay Fathers of Halifax is signed, "Gerry Bryant". It's a fitting tribute to an old friend. ▼

Randall Perry is a freelance writer living in Halifax.

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Folsom North's 2nd coming

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Leather and fetish lovers will have the chance to check out Canada's largest outdoor leather and fetish fair in Toronto on Sunday, July 18, in a parking lot (turned kinky market) across from the Wellesley Subway Station. The fair will be open from noon to 10 p.m., with artists, performers, exhibitionists, demonstrations and live entertainment.

Now in its second year, the event is the brainchild of friends John Tiffany and Dean Price, who first created Folsom Fair North because they each have a strong belief in the power of self-expression, freedom and friendship. The story of why they started the fair is a strikingly personal one. Last year, while both on vacation in Provincetown, they say a friend of theirs was denied entry from Canada into America because of his HIV+ status. It threw a serious wrench into their collective plan to head to the original Folsom Street Fair in San Francisco together that fall.

Rain brings out the damndest creatures! Entertainment at the 2003 fair

Tiffany, who is an American now living in Toronto, says that when he went with his Canadian friend to re-apply at the border for a medical waiver to enter the U.S. he "was able to see the problems that America has and, although I'm a proud American...watching the process of a five-hour interrogation of my friend...just

squashed a certain bit of the spirit that I had." Unwilling to go to the event in San Francisco without their friend, Tiffany and Price took matters into their own hands. "How could we enjoy ourselves knowing this tragedy had happened to [our friend]?" says Tiffany.

In just five months, they managed to create a non-profit organization, get the support from the City of Toronto (Councillor Kyle Rae was instrumental in getting it off the ground), persuade the board in San Fran to lend out the festival's name and plan the entire event. And despite cold rain during first-ever Folsom Fair North, the event still managed to attract almost 5,000 people.



DJ Neill MacLeod, seen here revving 'em up at last year's event

This year, with much more time to prepare, Tiffany and Price plan to continue to raise awareness of an American law with a "pick-and-choose implementation [that] is unpredictable and unacceptable." On their website—and in person—they are encouraging Americans to contact their elected representatives in the U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. Senate in protest.

"John and I thought that someone has to start letting people know that this unjust law exists...and maybe one day, with a lot of people becoming aware, this law will change," says Price. Proceeds from the event this year will go to the AIDS Committee of Toronto (ACT).

While working hard for two different but related causes, Folsom Fair North is also meant to be a weekend filled with sexy kinkiness. It starts on the Friday night with a welcoming party at the Black Eagle.

Then on Saturday, July 17, the 'Official Opening Party' will take place at The Steam Whistle Brewery, an old CP steam locomotive repair facility now home to a microbrewery/event space just steps from the CN tower. The party will feature the sounds of Boston DJ M. Arana, who wowed the crowd during the day at last year's fair. There will also be a special dungeon/play area under the supervision of Toronto's notorious Master R. Grrrrrrrr!

If you're not too exhausted come Sunday afternoon, the actual fair begins at noon and runs until 10 p.m. Tiffany and Price say they're already almost sold out of the seventy-five vendor spots available, which means you'll have plenty of places to look for some fun new gear. Both promise there will be something for everyone. To prove their point they tell the story of two eighty-year-old ladies they say looked like they'd "just stumbled onto the fair on their way home from church". Both panicked, not knowing what would happen next, until the ladies made their way to a stand selling dildos. The ladies were laughing so hard handling all the, um, *hardware*, that they say the situation reminded them how important it is to keep an open mind.

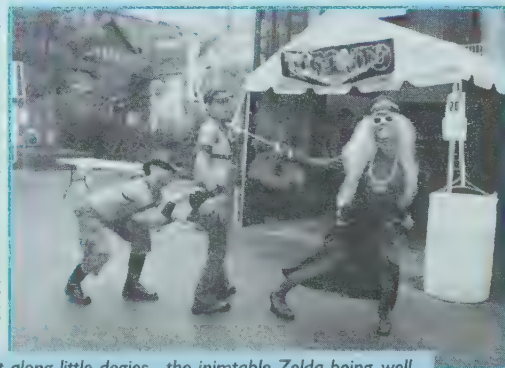
"Last year, while watching all these people out enjoying themselves and being accepted for whatever their fetish was, I had such a great feeling of just

'Come, you're going to be accepted'," says Price, "that's what we wanted to bring to our friend who was denied access into the United States." Tiffany chimes in, "we also want people to see what a great country Canada is and what a great city Toronto is...and to realize that Canada is great, open-minded destination."

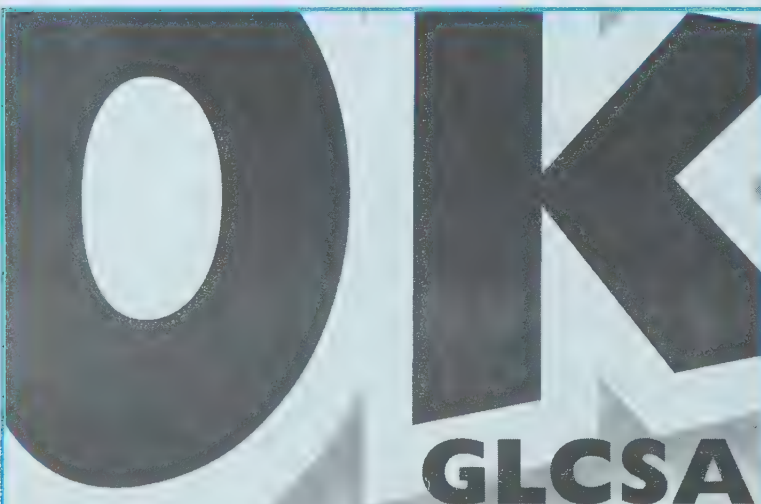
So, if you're in the mood to get out to be seen in your most outrageous fetish attire, or just take in the view, you can head to Toronto's Folsom Fair North 2. After all, those chaps weren't meant to simply hang in your closet.

For information on Folsom North 2, log on to www.folsomfairnorth.com

All pictures in this story courtesy of proudpictures.com



Git along little dogies... the inimitable Zelda being, well, inimitable, at the inaugural Folsom North event



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Telephone and in-person peer support available ... Please give us a call. Currently, support by a qualified counselor regarding GLBT issues is available free-of-charge, by appointment, on Tuesday and Thursday evenings at GLCSA.

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We would like to offer our sincere thanks to all of you who have donated to GLCSA through the United Way. As well, thank you to Al Glover, Rob Porter and Moore Moving for contributing to GLCSA's renovations.

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Rick Matthews is a freelance journalist based in Toronto. With the aim of taking a true look at the diversity of the gay community he's done work for *Fab* and appeared as a guest-host on *SoGayTV*.

OUTLOOKS

Taking pride in any environment

By Tyler Hopson



Latex gloves, salad tongs and big, black garbage bags aren't your standard pride gear. But for Vancouver's newest resource centre for gay men they are all part of pride—a state of mind that's not just confined to the summer months.

On April 24, just two days after Earth Day, Gayway, a division of AIDS Vancouver, took matters into its own hands, literally. Early that morning, a team of volunteers descended upon Lee's Trail in Stanley Park—not for casual sex, as is the practice of many Vancouver men—but to rid that same trail of debris. Ten garbage bags full

of condoms and needles and several hours later, their work was done.

It's all quite disgusting—and even Gayway admits that—so why do it in the first place?

Whether gay men are having sex in their bedrooms, bathhouses or the parks, it's important to take care of the immediate environment and make sure that it's a healthy place for everybody, says Burkhardt, an Outreach Educator for Gayway.

But he feels a sense of responsibility is often non-existent when it comes to sexual activity in the park. "If you're invited over to somebody's house for casual sex, you wouldn't leave condoms all around and just ditch the place," he says. It's about respecting each other."

The idea for the event came when several men who use the park pointed out what a mess it was to the folks at Gayway. In its search for a uniquely gay way to celebrate Earth Day, Gayway settled on the park cleanup as the perfect event. "The goal for us was to raise awareness around the issue and encourage people to take care of their environment wherever they are," Burkhardt says.

He is quick to point out that Gayway promotes healthiness and not park sex. "Park sex can be absolutely the most healthy thing a person can do. It can also be the most unhealthy thing... It depends on reasons; it depends on people's situations and attitudes," Burkhardt says.

"The other idea for people who aren't familiar with the parks is to build an acceptability around that, so it's not such a foreign or strange idea. People do have judgments about it... It's nothing weird. It's just another environment that people have sex in."

The existence of used needles lying on Stanley Park's trails is a safety issue for the community, and Burkhardt says people have to realize this particular problem stretches beyond the infamous zone around Hastings Street.

Early that morning, a team of volunteers descended upon Lee's Trail in Stanley Park—not for casual sex, as is the practice of many Vancouver men—but to rid that same trail of debris. Ten garbage bags full of condoms and needles and several hours later, their work was done.

For Gayway, every project begins with the idea that "gay is good". Unlike other health projects, the organization doesn't believe gay men are needy victims that need help from all

directions. "What we [gay men] struggle most with," says Burkhardt, "is invisibility and trying to find each other, and find meaningful ways to interact with each other because of that invisibility."

He says gay men already have the resources they require, and what they need to do is share those resources with each other. Gayway is the ideal place for doing this, he adds.

Gayway plans to make the condom cleanup an annual event, along with the numerous other programs run out of its offices on the corner of Hornby and Davie Streets. "Being gay in Vancouver is good," says Burkhardt. "We encourage gay men to come together and improve things for each other, if they need improving. And if they don't need improving, they need celebrating."



Gayway volunteers descend upon Lee's Trail in Stanley Park to rid it of debris. Ten garbage bags full of condoms and needles and several hours later, their work was done.



A valley paradise

By Josh Murray

I'm not even close to thirty and yet I am fully ready to retire. Not financially, mind you—not by a long shot—but I've found the most beautiful, relaxing place and I think I'd like to stay awhile.

B.C.'s Okanagan, predominantly known for its abundant orchards and globally recognized wines, is ripe for discovery. The area is full of quaint bed and breakfasts, vast resorts and lush wineries, but it is by no means sleepy. There are adventure tours year 'round, arts and music festivals and, encouragingly, a growing gay community thriving in the valley once known for aging "blue hairs" and bible-thumping.

Kelowna, the region's major economic centre, is a town of approximately 150,000 residents. Built on a vast history of forestry and agriculture, the city has experienced its largest residential boom in the last fifteen years—nearly doubling its population—thanks in large measure to tourism initiatives. A drive from Vancouver directly into the heart of the city's business centre will take just over five hours, barring any challenging weather conditions or major traffic delays. From Calgary, the journey is about six hours. Air Canada, Westjet and even Horizon Air have begun to experience such significant demand for air travel to the area that all three airlines now run daily flights directly into the Kelowna Airport.

Opened in 1960, Kelowna's airport has grown with each decade. Non-stop service is now available all year long to four major airports for both domestic and international connections: Vancouver, Seattle, Calgary and Edmonton. Direct service to Toronto and Hamilton is added in the hot summer months and, in the winter, a great many members of Kelowna's significant retirement community make use of direct flights to Puerto Vallarta, Mexico. All of these flights have helped encourage and improve Kelowna's overall accessibility. In fact, more flights from Seattle now land in Kelowna than Calgary—an example of just how important a region's tourism industry can be to its overall stability and expansion. Calgary may have the corporate HQs but Kelowna boasts the VQA.

The Vintner's Quality Alliance is the primary supervisor of B.C.'s booming wine industry. And Kelowna, coupled with local areas of Naramata, Penticton and Oliver, is at the centre of a winemaker's paradise. In fact, more grapes are currently growing on the vines in Oliver than in any other region of Canada, making it—as is evidenced by tourists at photo ops at either end of the small community—the self-proclaimed Wine Capital of Canada.

The proclamation, however, is not undeserved: around Okanagan Lake, there are more than three dozen wineries in operation and many of them consistently win international recognition and accolades for their superb work.

The vast expanses of Kelowna's Mission Hill are truly something for the eye to behold. Its bell tower rings majestically throughout the day and the outdoor amphitheatre, built in the grassy hill above Okanagan Lake, presents absolutely unequalled views of the surrounding valley.



The attractive—and effective—pyramid at Summerhill Winery in Kelowna

At Summerhill Estate Winery in Kelowna, winemakers have been experimenting for years with the effects of geometry on the winemaking process. The winery sports an impressive pyramid that acts as a wine cellar to age and improve aroma and taste. And obviously it does the job—at 2003's Fall Wine Festival, Summerhill took nine awards home, including a gold medal for a 2001 Cabernet Sauvignon. Stop

by to sample any one of their fine whites or reds, and be sure to stay for lunch; moderately priced meals are served, with beautiful views of Okanagan Lake, on the veranda at

the winery's Sunset Bistro.

Further down Highway 97, just past Oliver, is Tinhorn Creek. Sonya Konig, a world traveller with South African roots, has planted her feet firmly in the wine community at Tinhorn. The Wine Lover's Club, an operation Konig began just over three years ago, is a vacation getaway worthy of even the most well-travelled soul, and the experience includes

a series of wine workshops that educates visitors in an informal and entertaining manner.

The club immerses travellers in the wine community and explores the entire operation. From seed planting to uncorking, visitors not only get a full understanding of the significant work and knowledge required by winemakers in the region, they also walk away with much more than the common quick tasting.

During the trips—which range from one night to five-day-long escapes—visitors stay on the premises at Tinhorn Creek in fully furnished suites, complete with stunning views and the finest amenities. The club also builds the packages out into full adventures by arranging daily tours, spa treatments, trail biking, art seminars and even snowshoeing in the winter months. To top off the journey, a chef joins the group for a tutorial on food pairing and the intricacies of coupling wines properly with meals. *Vancouver Magazine*, the urbanite's bible of fine dining, shopping and travelling, even discovered Konig's getaways in 2003 and named the journey B.C.'s Best Getaway. For those interested in knowing more, Konig's website (www.thewineloversclub.com) contains an abundance of information on prices and availability.

If the idea of you vacationing on the grounds of a winery is enough to make your mother nervous, Kelowna and surrounding regions offer countless other options—both reasonable and luxurious. Resorts such as Manteco and the Grand Okanagan, both located on the waterfront in Kelowna, have received rave reviews for years but, more recently, bed and breakfasts in the area have become increasingly popular with visitors who want to experience first-hand the hospitality of the region's citizens. A growing number of these establishments are gay-owned or gay-friendly.

The quaint Springbuck Bed and Breakfast, with hosts Don and Bruce, is in the middle of it all. The home boasts three different guest rooms and is a perfect spot to spend a weekend while in Kelowna. Its practical charm is refreshing and perhaps even comforting—a communal den, a collection of engrossing reads and two beautiful Dalmatians, Bingo and Domino, give the whole establishment a homey feel. Owner Don Pretzer calls Bingo "the more polite one" and it would appear she's learned a thing or two from her owners. A gracious welcome, spacious rooms and sparkling clean facilities make the house a treat to spend time at.

The Springbuck is minutes from amenities and—of particular interest to shopaholics—mere blocks from the mall. Its location is easily accessible, being just minutes from Kelowna's unique floating bridge that welcomes and transports visitors to the city. On your days of local sightseeing, you need only make two quick turns to make it to the highway corridor that transports you to all points of interest.

Another popular B&B in the Kelowna area is The Flags, run by hosts Bryan and Don. This property, situated just outside of the city's core, offers visitors the opportunity to embrace more leisurely pursuits: a day by the pool with a good book, for example. And, although it is in a less urban setting than the Springbuck, The Flags is a quick car trip away from anything you might want to do or see during your stay.

The best way to see the region is by car, and a simple trip up to the North Okanagan will present you with not only vastly different landscapes and vegetation, but a completely different sense of adventure.

Silver Star Resort is the latest B.C. mountain to receive the glam treatment. Following the path forged by successful ski retreats like Whistler/Blackcomb and Big White, Silver Star has been transformed from a quiet 1960s mountain refuge to a year 'round family retreat. The area is populated by Victorian-style homes and commercial buildings, and the resort has a strict construction policy that forbids monster mansions and quickie apartment complexes. All structures must be in keeping with the Victorian gaslight theme and must include at least five colours of exterior paint. Some owners are obviously more familiar with colour palettes than others, but overall, the area has encouraged and maintained a bright and welcoming atmosphere.

The powder is pure perfection for skiers during the winter. Runs range from green to double-black diamond and there is no shortage of space with eleven lifts and a lift capacity of 14,000 mountain adventurers per hour. The hills routinely receive over twenty-three feet of snow each year and the light champagne powder is a celebrated attribute.

For apres-ski moments, the village is mid-mountain so snow bunnies can literally ski directly in and out of their accommodations. For further adventure, Big White—Silver Star's sister resort—is a short but magnificent helicopter ride away. For just over fifty dollars, you can experience the



Home sweet home: the very inviting entrance of Kelowna's Springbuck B&B

continued opposite

Canada's Gay Community Magazine

OUTLOOKS

June 2004

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Gays will be gays?

By David Crosson



Some battles, it seems, will just never be won. At least not to the extent that anyone would notice. Good vs. Evil, Israel vs. Palestine, Pepsi vs. Coke—all

appear destined to linger in some conflict limbo for eternity. Actually, you'd better put big 'G' Gay vs. little 'g' gay in that category as well, for it seems the more flamboyant of the two will always have its detractors, both in and out of our community. For the time being, however, let's just focus on the criticism that comes from beyond the (sub) cultural borders during Pride, our annual celebration of big 'G' Gay.

Like it or not, Pride season is a time that highlights both the diversity and divisiveness in our ranks, a series of events that qualifies as a genuine PR nightmare for those who choose to qualify things as such. Apparently, if one looks at the big societal scorecard, our exuberant demonstrations of community spirit are simply just too *louche* to be considered "acceptable". Granted, there are times when some of us get a bit carried away and take things a bit far for *anyone's* taste but, for the most part, Pride celebrations are relatively harmless 'blips' in the grand scheme of things. True, they would certainly be considered over-the-top in the eyes of, say, Mr. and Mrs. Front Porch, but when you consider the types of celebrations that are deemed "acceptable" in mainstream society, you have to wonder how exactly the criteria for acceptance was established in the first place.

Take, for example, the "Flames Fever" that has gripped the city of Calgary. Like any other fever, the Flames frenzy has generated a considerable amount of heat—and resulted in some rather questionable behaviour. Night after night, regardless of a win, 17th

Avenue S.W. (where we will soon gather for our own festivities) has been ground zero for the horn-honking, war-whooping, beer-swilling masses. Lately, it has been dubbed and widely referred to as "The Red Mile", a nod to the sea of scarlet hockey jerseys worn by the revellers who occupy the territory. (Clearly my superior suggestion of "Stupid, Drunken Frat-boy Row" got lost somewhere along the way in the post, as did "Boy Is My Face Red Mile".) In the latest round of "harmless" celebrations, windows were broken at both Mona Lisa Artists' Materials Ltd. and the Rubaiyat, the latter also sustaining damage to some garden statuary stored in its courtyard. The amount of litter and broken glass left in the wake of each of these outings was also outrageous. Despite this, and the impromptu street closures the mob forces when it turns up *en masse* on the avenue after a game, our mayor routinely shows up on television saying how wonderful it all is for Calgary, a sentiment echoed by various news presenters and media personalities. (I'm not singling out Dave Bronconnier, for he is one of the only Calgary mayors to actually proclaim Pride Week here—but he is also one of the most visible proponents of Flames boosterism and a fitting example of how such things are so readily embraced.) This attitude is shared by many (if not most) in the city, the less savoury aspects of the gatherings either ignored or dismissed as "just good fun".

Talk about a double standard.

Now, I'm not saying that members of our community didn't demonstrate their own brand of enthusiasm for the contest, it's just that fewer of them went to such extraordinary lengths to highlight the shortcomings of Darwinism on a near-nightly basis. Of course, in the big picture, a few broken windows and some property damage is not the end of the world, and the actions of the few should not colour the actions of the many (hint, hint). However, the whole matter did get me thinking about how our Pride

activities are viewed by the mainstream.

For the most part, those who pass off the loutish behaviour displayed in such hetero-heavy settings as a post-game party or Spring Break in Fort Lauderdale are the very same people first in line to criticize us during Pride. It may well be a matter of apples and oranges, but my palate is detecting that something's "gone off" in the fruit salad. Imagine if we turned up in force, necessitating a street closure, or if our celebration resulted in a mountain of litter and broken glass (of any kind). The backlash would be immeasurable.

According to the Calgary Police, the crowd has been "relatively well-behaved", with infractions limited to public liquor consumption and the odd flash of titty—what some consider a ringing endorsement for the so-called innocuousness of such events. Funny, that here we go to the trouble of pre-arranging street closures, procuring licenses for beer gardens and arranging for volunteers to clean up our litter, and yet somehow our celebration is still viewed as "a disgrace" but an overwhelming majority of the population. A well organized disgrace, mind you, but a disgrace nonetheless.

To my knowledge, there has not yet been any incidence of machismo-fuelled violence in the Flames celebrations specifically, but it is often one of the main ingredients in similar gatherings, as history both recent and distant will attest. I ask you: when was the last time

you saw a fistfight break out among participants at a Pride parade? I know fisticuffs are usually a by-product of human nature when spirits run high, but does that make them any more acceptable? Again, a majority of "polite society" will dismiss this and other behaviours with the handy "boys will be boys" rationale, qualifying this by saying there's nothing wrong with people letting off a bit of steam and having a good time.

Beg pardon, but isn't that what we're trying to do when we gather once a year?

It seems to me that the only real difference between hetero celebrations in public and homo celebrations in public, is that there's little in the way of willful property damage, littering and violence when we go out to have a good time. (In some cities we may well top them in the "visible titty-and-ass" department, but that's another matter altogether...)

The next time someone wants to take us to task for our "offensive" and "irresponsible" public behaviour, I suggest we turn the mirror 'round the other way before so quickly pointing fingers in our own community. Then again, perhaps if we use Pride 2004 to engage in some fisticuffs and trash a few store windows, we may just move a little closer to achieving true equality—at least in the eyes of Mr. and Mrs. Front Porch. Ain't it just a bitch when your veranda's attached to a glass house?

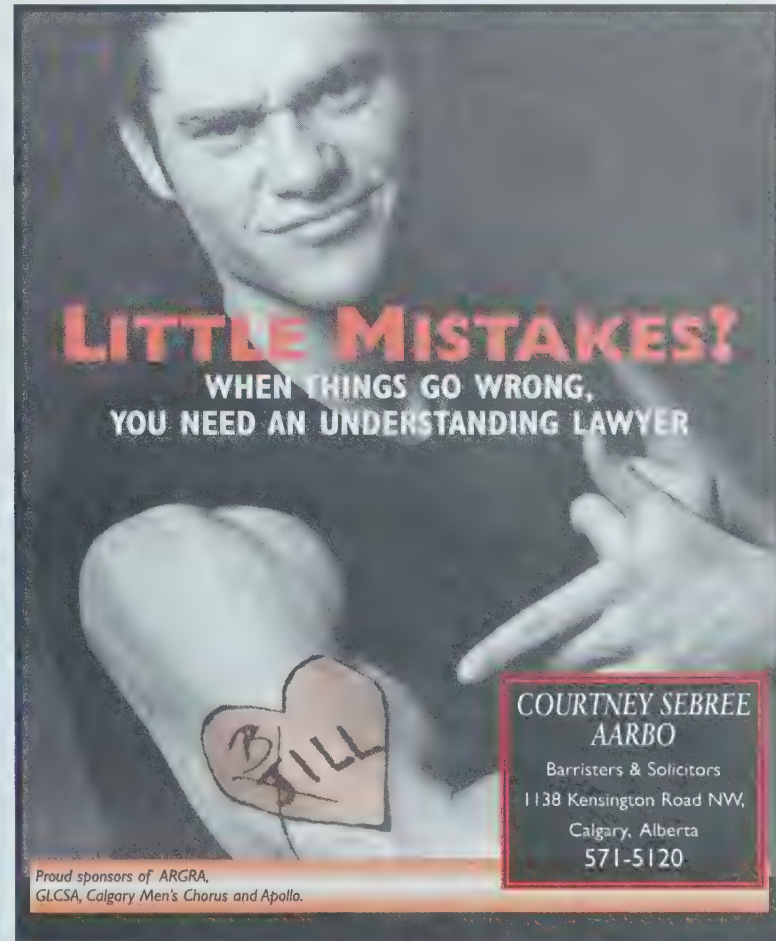
I wish you all a safe and happy Pride. ☘



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British Columbia Pride Listings 2004

VANCOUVER

Sunday, June 20

10th Annual Pride Gala Dinner and Silent Auction at the Coast Plaza Hotel and Suites (1763 Comox Street) What better way to get into the party spirit than with a fundraiser? Host Randy Newburg has been keeping the bidding high and spirits light for a decade. Join over 300 of your friends and neighbours for an unforgettable evening of food, fun, and fabulous auction items! Cocktails commence at 6 p.m., with dinner at 7:30.



Friday, June 25

Stonewall goes to City Hall (453 W. 12th Avenue) from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Witness the raising of the Pride Flag over City Hall. Listen to Mayor Larry Campbell's proclamation. Participate in a roundtable discussion with 10 of Vancouver's Pride Pioneers.

Saturday, June 26

It's back and better than ever! The Vancouver Pride Society is pleased to announce the Resurrection of Stonewall. Gone for years, this Community Fair featuring arts, crafts, music and food makes its triumphant return to Grandview Park on Commercial Drive. Join us from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. for the Festival portion of the event, then stick around for the retro '70s & '80s dance, which runs from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. in the WISE Hall (1882 Adanac Street).

Saturday, July 24

Picnic in the Park, the traditional kick-off to Pride Week in Vancouver, is back on the schedule. Join the VPS from noon to 4 p.m. for a fun-filled day of wacky games and races for the whole family (and pets!) at Prospect Point in Stanley Park. Thirsty? No worries: check out the Labatt Beer Garden.

Saturday, July 25 to Friday, July 30

Queer-coustic takes place in the Alexandra Park Bandstand (located at the corner of Denman and Burnaby Streets, from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Enjoy 5 nights of acoustic music from local performers

against the backdrop of English Bay.

Saturday July 30

The VPS is excited to be working with the boys at TBB to produce the Pride 2004 'In the Name of Love' Pride Ball. Visit www.RapturePrideVancouver.com for more details!

Sunday, August 1

In honour of our founder, the Terry Wallace Memorial Breakfast features live music, celebrity pancake flippers and more fun than you can shake a spatula at! It runs in Nelson Park from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m., and is the perfect way to fuel up for...

In the Name of Love, the 2004 Pride Parade This is what Pride is all about! Whether you're there to cheer on your favourite float or leer at the hotties, be sure to get there early to find the best spot. The Parade starts at noon sharp on Denman Street and makes its way to Sunset Beach for the after-parade festivities.

For years, it has been the traditional site for the post-Parade party, and this year will be no exception! Hundreds of kiosks play host to food vendors, community organizations and artisans, and the Mainstage is where you will find live entertainment from local performers and secret special guests. The Festival is a free, all-ages event and runs from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.

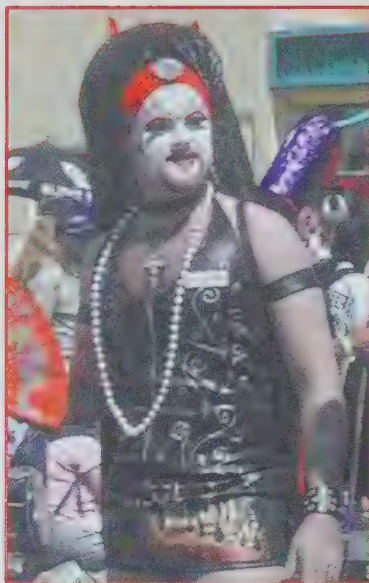
After the afternoon fun, say 'Yes Sir!' to the Pride Denim and Leather Cruise, which sets sail on the MV Britannia with the men of CruiseT from 5 to 9 p.m. Boarding begins at 4 p.m. at the North foot of Denman Street. Tickets are \$50 and include dinner, with part of the proceeds to benefit the VPS. Cracking the whip are your DJs Uncle Johnie and Aries. Visit www.cruiseT.com for more details.

The MV Princess is where the boys and 'girls' will be for fun on the high seas; join divas Mandy Kamp, Carlotta Gurl, Connie Smudge and DJ Zach Shore for a delicious dinner and dancing on the Pride Go-Go Cruise, from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. Boarding commences at 5 p.m. at the North foot of Denman. Tickets are \$50 and include dinner, with part of the proceeds to benefit the VPS. Visit www.cruiseT.com for more details.



Monday, August 2

The folks at CruiseT sure know how to throw a party! Join the Board of the VPS and some 500 other guests for the Pride Party Cruise up Indian Arm. On the way back, enjoy resident drag divas Willie Taylor



and Mandy Camp, DJ Abasi and live sax with Iain as things heat up on Canada's largest floating dance club on the Pacific. Tickets are \$50 and part of the proceeds benefit the Vancouver Pride Society. Visit www.cruiseT.com for more details.

NANAIMO

This year's Pride celebration, which runs from June 21 to June 27, is certain to rival last year's event. The festivities kick off with the rainbow flag being raised at City Hall Monday, June 21st, with a photo opportunity from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. This will be

followed by a Forum sponsored by the Men's Wellness Group, which will take place at St. Paul's United Church from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. The featured guest speaker for this event is Mary Woo Sims, of the B.C. Human Rights Commission, and she will be discussing the issues involved with gay marriage. Afterwards, a gathering for refreshments will take place at 70 Below.

Pride Week will also feature a Bowling Night Thursday, June 24, sponsored by V.I.L.I.P.S. Day events on June 26 will include a marketplace, games, picnic, silent auction, live music, fashion show, swimming, mock marriages (complete with wedding cake!) and many more surprises. Evening events will also include a repeat performance by Nanaimo's own retro band, WUNDERBREAD, from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m.

This year, make a commitment to a great celebration—For Better or For Worse: Nanaimo Pride 2004.

VICTORIA

For a preliminary list of Victoria's Pride celebrations, please visit their website at www.victoriapride.com

OKANAGAN VALLEY

For a preliminary list of Pride celebrations in the Okanagan region, please visit their website for updates and information: www.gaycanada.com/okanagan-pride

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

Please visit www.outnorth.nt.ca for a list of 2004 Pride events.

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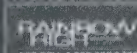
PRIMARY MEDIA PARTNERS



MEDIA PARTNERS



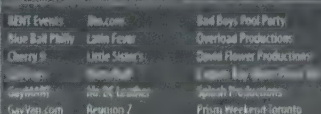
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ALBERTA Pride Listings 2004

EDMONTON

*Indicates ticketed events (tickets available at TIX on the Square)

June 5

ISCWR Coronation 2004 takes place at the Freemason Hall (10308 100 Avenue). Doors open at 5 p.m., with the Ball commencing at 6 p.m. Tickets available at the door

June 4 & 5

The Laramie Project runs @ the Milner Library Theatre (7 Sir Winston Churchill Square), starting at 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, June 12

Mr. Edmonton Leather, sponsored by Northern Chaps, takes place at the Arts Barns (10330 - 84 Avenue)

Friday June 18

Pride kicks off with the Annual Pride Awards and Reception at City Hall (9920 103A Avenue), commencing at 7 p.m.

Saturday June 19

Get up and at 'em: it's Parade day! Line up on 111 St. (just north of Jasper) at 1 p.m., then move gaily forward at 2 p.m. to the Oliver Arena (10335-119 Street). After the parade, join members of your community in the arena for the ERBA Business Fair. The afternoon will feature a Beer Garden (open at 2 p.m.) and entertainment that includes Edmonton's Pride Squad and special guests San Francisco Cheer!

Later that evening, the Unity Dance, coordinated by Womonspace, kicks off at 9 p.m. in the Alberta Avenue Community Hall (9210 - 118 Avenue)

An A.A. Campfire Meeting, 'Celebrating Sobriety with Pride', starts at 10 p.m. Call (780) 455-0261 or (780) 424-1784 or e-mail sec.soberstrongandfree@shaw.ca for information on the location.

Sunday, June 20

Celebrate the spiritual side of Pride with Lambda Christian Community Church and Garneau United Church (11148 - 84 Avenue) as they present 'Pride in Song' with Jim & Jean Strathdee from Carmichael, California. The Garneau United Church offers a Worship Service starting at 10:30 a.m. that day, while the Lambda Christian Community Church presents a Worship service at 7 p.m. that evening

**Edmonton Vocal Minority presents 'Our Musical Language', with guests Notre Dame des Bananes, as well as Sheila Wright

(piano), John Mahon (clarinet) and Jennifer Bustin (violin). This event starts at 3 p.m. at McDougall United Church (10025 100 Street)

On Sunday, June 20, and Monday, June 21, be sure to check out 'The Ideal School': Art about School by GLBT Youth

The event takes place on June 20 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. and from noon to 9 p.m. on June 21, in the Stanley A. Milner Library (7 Sir Winston Churchill Square). There will



be a Reception and Youth Presentation on the Monday from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

This 3-D interactive art project and series of NFB Film screenings are part of the Edmonton Pride Week Festival, and is funded by the Federal Crime Prevention Fund - Federal Justice Fund. It is based out of the U of A Faculty of Education and involves youth 13-24 years of age from across the Metro Edmonton area. The project creates support and provides an outlet for expression for GLBT youth, as well as awareness in the public.

Tuesday, June 22

**Punk Pride runs at the Power Plant, in the North Power Plant building just north of Dentistry-Pharmacy (113 Street & 90 Avenue), right in the heart of the campus.

Thursday, June 24

Don't miss Acts of Pride: An evening of Queer Theatre, dance and all things wonderful at Workshop West (11516-103 Street) from 7 p.m. through 11 p.m.

Friday, June 25

ISCWR Annual Mr and Mz Gay Edmonton Pageant takes place at Boots (10244-106 Street)

Saturday, June 26

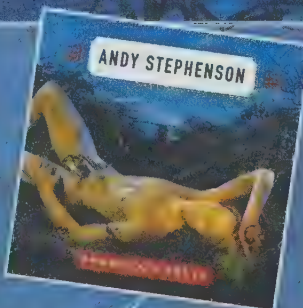
**Get out and shake it up at the Pride Dance, which will take place in the Polish Hall (10960 - 104 Street) beginning at 8 p.m. and running 'til 2 a.m. Tickets are limited, so be sure to get yours early

Sunday June 27

Wrap up the festivities with Edmonton's Centennial Pancake Brunch & Penny Carnival at 'The Big Fresh' (12120 Jasper Avenue), from noon to 4 p.m. This is a traditional 'Alberta-style' Pancake Breakfast (at gay standard time!) and is an event for the whole family!

Want to keep up to date on what's up for Edmonton's 2004 celebrations? Then visit www.prideedmonton.org often or e-mail info@prideedmonton.org for more info.

ANDY STEPHENSON FORBIDDEN FRUIT



Twist (FROM MY HEART BELONGS TO DADDY)
STUPID CUPID
STUCK ON YOU
I'VE GOT WHAT YOU HO
HALLELUJAH I LOVE HIM SO
SON OF A PREACHER MAN
WATERMELON MAN
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TEDDY BEAR
PHYSIQUE THEN
THIRTEEN MEN
VOGUE
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ALBERTA Pride Listings 2004

CALGARY

Friday, June 4

Metro/Boytown is the hot-spot to be on the eve of the Pride Week celebrations, as Priape, Interactive Male and *Outlooks* magazine join forces to present a fashion show featuring the latest collection from Priape's summer line. This event is co-hosted by Mr. Devon Mills and Mistress Verushka and begins at 11 p.m. Admission to the show is \$5, or complimentary with a VIP pass, available through Priape prior to the event.

Saturday, June 5

Join GirlsGo.ca at the Inglewood Community Centre (1740 24 Ave S.E.) for the Lock & Key Women's Dance. Doors open at 8 p.m. and tickets are available at a cost of \$10.

Sunday, June 6

Whether you're walking or watching, 17 Avenue S.W.—the heart of Calgary's emerging gay village—will be the place to be on the kick-off day of Pride. All the



other colours of the rainbow will converge on the city's now-famous "Red Mile", marching to be the beat of diverse drummers in the Pride Calgary/Gay Calgary.com Pride Parade. Marshalling takes place at 2nd Street and 17th Avenue S.W., with departure set for noon. This year's parade promises to be the biggest and best ever, so be sure to turn up early and stake out a spot along the route if you're planning to cheer on participating members of your community.

After the parade, stick around to demonstrate your Pride on the avenue, with the inaugural *Outlooks* Street Festival, co-produced with the Uptown 17 Business Revitalization Zone and Pride Calgary. Tomkins Park (adjacent to Mount Royal Village) is the nucleus of this all-ages event, and an eclectic array of community organizations, vendors and performers will make

this afternoon of celebration a memorable one. As well, a large capacity beer garden (always a favourite) will be available to quench your thirst or soothe vocal cords strained by cheering.

Money-Pennies will be hosting its traditional and always popular post-Pride Parade Party, immediately following the parade.

Backlot and the ISCCA join forces to host a post-Pride Parade BBQ Bash at Backlot from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. Fear not: we've got meat!

Think you've got what it takes to wow 'em? Then be at the Calgary Eagle from 3 p.m. 'til dusk to compete in the "Reach for the Gods" Dancer Competition, part of the club's after-parade party. If you're interested in competing in this race for a prime position in the Fire and Ice party, visit the Interactive Male booth at the *Outlooks* Street Festival to pre-register.

Still got some energy? Stop by Metro/Boytown Sunday evening for The Ho Show, Hosted by Margaret Ho. There will be two shows (10:30 p.m. & 12:30 a.m.) and admission is \$3.

Monday, June 7

Money-Pennies is the venue for the Colour Your World Art Show & Sale opening cocktail reception, featuring the works of Lisa Heinrichs, Jorde English and other guest artists. The reception runs from 7 to 10 p.m.

Monday blues don't fit into your rainbow? Boost your spirits at Metro/Boytown *Queer As Folk* night, with a re-cap of the May 31 airing at 10 p.m. and the new episode at 11. Fairy Specials on drinks will be in effect.

Tuesday, June 8

Park it at Metro/Boytown from 10 p.m. to midnight and check out Fairy Flicks, with a movie screening (title TBA) on their 8-ft. screen. Who says size doesn't matter? Munchies and drink specials will be available all night long.

Wednesday, June 9

"Pride Patty", proud proprietress of Merlot, presents a Rainbow Revue starring Mr. Devon Mills, Bianca LaBouche and Eartha Quake. Two shows (8:30 & 10:30 p.m.) are slated for the evening and doors open at 7 p.m. Tickets are available through Merlot at a cost of \$10.

Need cash to fund your festivities? Metro/Boytown may have the solution, with \$200 up for grabs in Amateur Strip, running at midnight. Show us what you've got to be proud of!

Thursday, June 10

Let's 10 Pin Bowl is the site of a fundraiser for SHARP Foundation's Beswick House, sponsored by Sunday Unity Apollo Bowling. The cost to participate in this fun & worthwhile event is \$20, and interested parties may register at Money-Pennies (all major credit cards accepted). The game action begins at 6:30 p.m. Please contact Mark at (403) 25-6954 for more

info.

It's "equal time for the ladies" as Metro/Boytown hosts a special Mr. & Ms Hot Ass Contest, with \$200 total in cash prizes. Fairy Specials on drinks will be in effect and showtime is midnight.



Friday, June 11

Who says fun costs too much? Obviously they haven't heard of Metro/Boytown's Cheap Thrills Pride Show, which kicks off at 10:30 p.m. Need a little incentive? Try Fairy Power Hour Specials 'til 11 p.m.

Saturday, June 12

Gear up for the pinnacle of Pride Week celebrations with a pre-dance warm-up party at Backlot. Special drink prices will be in effect for those who show their Pride Dance ticket.

GirlsGo.ca is proud to present Canadian comic diva Elvira Kurt in concert at the gateway Lounge (SAIT Campus Centre). This pre-dance event begins at 7:30 p.m. and also features special guests Mr. Devon Mills and Julia Stretch. Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door. Log on to www.girlsgo.ca for more info.

Need some calm before the dance "storm"? Then don't miss Vive la Compagnie, a Pride concert with the Calgary Men's Chorus and the Calgary Women's Chorus. The event takes place at the Rozsa Centre at U of C starting at 8 p.m. Tickets for the concert are available through Money-Pennies, Priape or any member of either chorus.

Now celebrating its fourteenth anniversary, the annual Pride Dance is one of the social events of the year this time around even bigger and better than ever before in a brand new venue. Join members of your

community for a night of fun and celebration in Hall D of the new Round Up Centre in Stampede Park; with vaulted ceilings soaring over 50,000 square feet, and a state-out-the-art sound and lighting system, this new location confirms that Calgary's Pride celebrations have truly "arrived". The event will also boast ten bar stations with full liquor menus and food will be available for those who want it. DJ Mystare, along with other special guest spinners, will guarantee a red-hot evening of dance action driven by a wide variety of music to suit every taste. Other entertainment highlights will include male and female go-go dancers, flaggers and a choreographed performance by one of Calgary's premier entertainers, Nina Tron, who will delight the assembled crowd along with her crew of talented back-up performers. The doors for this event open at 8 p.m. and tickets are available at a cost of \$20. Sale points include BackLot, Goliath's, MetroBoytown, Money-Pennies, Priape, Rainbow Pride Resource Centre, The ReKroom, The Verge and A Woman's Place Bookstore. Tickets can also be purchased at the door the evening of the dance, provided the event doesn't sell out beforehand! Please note that AGLC law will be enforced; therefore, you must be 18 years of age and, if you are under 25, you must have your I.D. with you. There will be no admittance without it! We promise this to be a memorable event. Come out, support your community and shake it up a little-or a lot.

Metro/Boytown welcomes one and all for a no-cover open house. Fairy Power Hour prices are in effect 'til 11 p.m., with shooter specials all night. Dancing's set to go late, so save a bit of energy from the big Pride Dance!

Saturday, June 19

Still not had enough? Then head over to Zodiak, Calgary's newest martini bar, for a post-Pride wrap-up event. Chill out and enjoy a cocktail or compare your snapshots from the previous week's activities. This casual get-together runs from 8 p.m. to close and will feature a DJ playing "sexy" House.

More information on these events is available online at www.pridecalgary.ca

Pride Wrap Up Party on June 19 from 8pm to 12am
Sexy House Music, Martini Specials All Night \$5.00...
Come Join Us in the Sexy House - Zodiak!

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WEDNESDAY-SATURDAY EVENINGS



SASKATOON & REGINA

Saturday, June 12

Join the caravan and be a part of the 'World's Longest Pride Parade' for the 235 km, 2.5 hour road trip to the 5th Annual Saskatchewan Pride Parade. Participants will meet up at 7:45 a.m. in the Victoria School Parking Lot in Saskatoon and depart at 8 a.m. sharp. Travellers will re-group in Chamberlain for a mini-parade down the main street. Need a ride? Contact GLHS at (306) 665-1224 before June 4 for information about vans and carpooling.



Saskatchewan's 5th provincial Pride Parade will once again be rolling, marching, dancing, and frolicking gaily through the streets of Regina. It all starts with Line-up at the Legislature at 11 a.m., followed by a Rally at 11:45 a.m. The procession will launch at 12 noon. GLBTQ people, friends, families, and straight-but-not-narrow allies will gather from across the Prairies to celebrate diversity and show off our communities' most glorious. Bring a lawn chair and a squirt gun to watch the show...or join it! After the parade, there will be speakers and entertainment all afternoon in Victoria Park.

For the up-to-the-minute Parade information, visit Saskatoon Diversity Network's site at: www.saskatoonpride.ca

Parking is available in the lots at the Saskatchewan Legislature Building, as well as downtown.

Looking for a party after the parade? Head over to Regina's Pride Dance. Tickets \$8/advance, \$10/door, available at GLHS in Saskatoon and Buzzword Books in Regina. Please check SDN's website for the latest information.

A block of rooms has been reserved at the Super 8 Motel on Victoria Avenue East. Mention the "Saskatchewan Pride Parade" block and receive a discounted rate of \$62/night for up to 4 people. Call 1-800-854-9518 for reservations.

Sunday, June 13

A Unitarian Pride Service, brought to you by the Unitarian Congregation of Saskatoon, will be held at the Unitarian Centre (912 Idylwyld Dr. N.) starting at 10:30 a.m. Please call the church at (306) 653-2402 for more information on the service.

Join us for Family Day in the Park, an afternoon of arts and crafts, free food, games, and fun in the sun; win prizes in events like the obstacle course relay, three-legged race, and balloon toss. We'll also be serving up a free barbeque with meat & veggie burgers, drinks and snacks. It all takes place in Ashworth Holmes Park (Ave. E & 31st St. W.) from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. Fun for kids and grown-ups too. Bring lawn chairs, soccer balls, kites, pets, and anything else you like to play with. Parking is available along side streets. We promise we won't grease the waterballoons this year.

Monday, June 14

A press conference introducing Pride, the proclamation of GLBT Pride Week and the raising of a rainbow flag will take place in front of City Hall starting at 10:30 a.m.

Tuesday, June 15

Director Karim Ainouz's 2003 film *Madame Satã*, a joint venture by the Broadway Theatre and SDN, plays at the Broadway Theatre starting at 7 p.m. Admission (18A) is \$3.50 with a Pride Guide. *Madame Satã* (in Portuguese with English subtitles) runs throughout the week at regular theatre prices. Please see the Broadway's schedule online at: (www.broadwaytheatre.ca) or call (306) 652-6556 for more information.

Don't miss the dykes vs. drag queens grudge match in the Lipstick and Balls Pool Tournament! Community members are paired-up against local drag performers at Break Zone Billiards, starting at 7:30 p.m. It's a fabulous idea to begin with and fabulous food and fabulous prizes will make it even more so. Be there!

It's the "It's My Party Drag Show" in honour of Mr Diva's 2004 Justin Tyme's

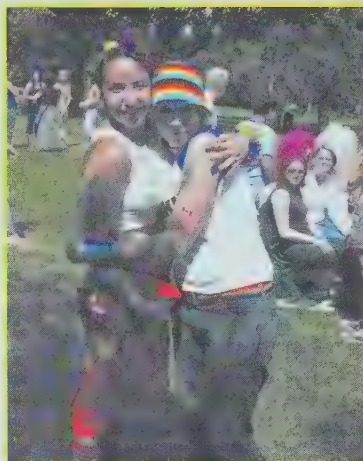


birthday, so come help him celebrate! It all begins at 10 p.m. at Diva's nightclub.

Wednesday, June 16

The Headquarters Pub is the host venue for Art Attack, a show and sale of work by numerous local GLBT visual artists. This free event kicks off at 7 p.m. and runs through Saturday.

Have you ever wanted to visit Steamworks Club for Men? By popular demand, Steamworks will be open for its



first women-only night on Wednesday, from 7 p.m. to 3 a.m. All women and trans-people are welcome and admission is \$12 or \$15 depending on your choice of facility. Tickets must be purchased in advance, and admission will only be granted to those 19 years of age or older only (ID will be required). Please call (306) 955-0090 for more information.

At "The Hump", Rainbow Radio hosts Ryan and Nicole spin queer tunes from their Sunday night show at Amigo's Cantina, starting at 9 p.m. Admission to the event is \$3.

Thursday, June 17

Drop by the Main University of Saskatchewan Library between 2:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. for a cup of tea and some scrumptious treats at the Pink Tea Party. Displays of many curious new G/L acquisitions and a preview of their new website, Saskatchewan Resources for Sexual Diversity Studies, are among the many enticements. All are welcome to this free event and the exhibition runs throughout June.

The Queer-O-Rama bowling tournament is one where you don't have to bowl straight. It all happens at KG Bowl, with registration at 6:30 p.m. and bowling starting at 7 p.m. Admission to this event is \$7 and prizes will be awarded for high scores and creativity.

Friday, June 18

Based on the Paul Jackson book *Courting Homosexuals in the Military*, the film *Open Secrets* (directed by José Torrealba & produced by Germaine Ying Gee Wong) will be screened at the Francis Morrison Library starting at 12 noon. This is a free event brought to you by the Saskatoon Public Library.

What's the "new-new" thing? This June, get a glimpse of what everyone wants to be seen wearing... Pride is the New Black is SDN's showcase of exciting new fashion and design by young local artists. Featured designers include Maggie Abrahms, Steph Canning, Andie Stockman, and others. Wear your craziest homemade concoctions, and maybe you'll end up in the show! Come early for cocktails; stay late to catch performances by local artists and screen-

ings of AKA Gallery's bike-towed video show for youth, In Your Face. The evening is hosted by Ms Sakura Blossom in the 3rd Floor Avenue Building (220 3rd Ave. S.). Doors open at 7 p.m., with the show beginning at 8. The cost for this event is \$5 general admission or \$3 for youth.

Dance up a storm with Miss Diva's 2004 Carmen Rodriguez at the High Energy! Drag Show. It all happens at Diva's, starting at 10 p.m.; admission is \$3 for Diva's and SDN Members, or \$5 for the general public.

Saturday, June 19

This year Saskatoon will be hosting its first community fair at the Shakespeare on the Saskatchewan site, with booths for local community groups, artists, and crafts-people. The event, which runs from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., will feature live musical entertainment and food all day, plus games, a drag queen dunk tank, boat cruise and many more surprises! Calgary performance artist Mikiki will host the infamous Drag Races and Collaborative Makeover Party. Booths are available to community groups and craftspeople for a nominal fee. Please contact info@saskatoonpride.ca for information about setting up a table at the community fair. Booking deadline is June 4.

Held outdoors in tents along the riverbank at the Shakespeare on the Saskatchewan site, the dance is the biggest party of the Festival. The theme is Carnival!, so masks and outrageous costumes are encouraged, and the fun runs from 8 p.m. until 2 a.m. Please buy your tickets early, as they will be sold in advance only (at a cost of \$12) and we expect to sell out. Starting May 24, tickets will be available in Saskatoon at GLHS's Out of the Closet Boutique (306-665-1224), and in Regina at Pink Triangle Community Services (306-525-6046). As in 2003, a limited number of free tickets for youth (18 & under) will be made available in advance. Please contact Ryan at youth@saskatoonpride.ca for details and to sign up.

The Headquarters Pub is hosting its Ab Fab Bash, an absolutely fabulous party to end your absolutely fabulous Pride, starting at 9 p.m.

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MAIN EVENTS

TWIST Party 11th Annual White Ball

The mid summer's white event

Saturday, July 31st

CLUB MEDLEY

DJs Manny Lehman (Los Angeles / New York)

& Gilles Jr. (Montréal)

TWIST ENCORE

Sunday, August 1st

CLUB STEREO

DJ Paulette (London, UK) & another special guest DJ

BEACH DAY AT THE BEACH

Saturday, July 31st, 10 am to 7 pm

BEACH AT PARC JEAN-DRAPEAU, NOTRE-DAME ISLAND

Entertainment, swimming, volleyball, beach party,

Guest DJ 's

Bar sponsored by Coors Light and Base Energy drink

Entrance: only \$7.50

Other official events in the Gay Village from July 29 to August 2nd

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TWIST BBCM PRESENTS
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LAUNCH PARTY
Saturday, July 31st, 10pm - 1am at Club Altitude 737
Entrance: \$10 (incl. 1 drink)

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Info & VIP passes: www.bbcm.org 514.875.7026 ext 201 information@bbcm.org
tickets for main dance partys on sale in August at www.ticketpro.ca 1 866-908-9090

THANKS TO OUTLOOKS!

Manitoba Pride Listings 2004

WINNIPEG

The theme for Winnipeg Pride 2004 is Bridge Building: celebrating the spanning of gaps between the GLBT community and the many allies who have helped us achieve so much. We also honour those who've helped create bridges between the diverse members of our own community, and have filled ten days from June 3 to June 13 with events that offer something for everyone.



Thursday, June 3

Once again, we start the Winnipeg Pride celebrations by raising the Pride flag at Winnipeg City Hall (510 Main Street) starting at noon. Civic leaders, public officials, dignitaries, members of Winnipeg's GLBT community and the general public are expected to attend the ceremony in force as a demonstration of camaraderie in the name of Pride.

Saturday, June 5

The Empire Cabaret (426 Main Street) is the host venue for the Pride Kick-Off Social, which runs from 8 p.m. through 2 a.m. Tickets for this event are \$15. Start the week's festivities out in grand style with this nostalgic event: 'Remembering the Dances at Immaculate Conception', a fundraiser featuring music of the '60s, '70s, and '80s with ditties by the Kinsey Posen Orchestra and sets from DJ Lorie Bielefeld.

Saturday, June 5 and Sunday, June 6

For two days, baseball teams of all skill levels will square off in beautiful Omand Creek Park with Pitch for Pride. This is the third year for this friendly tournament that brings together friends, families, and co-workers for a sun- and fun-filled day, both starting at 10 a.m. and running through 'til dusk.

Sunday June 6

Desire's Kids Karnival will see the club converted into a fun playground for kids and parents alike. Sports mascots, a bouncy

castle, kids music for dancing and yoga are only some of the family-friendly activities on offer for the day, and free hot dogs, juice and pop will be available for the kids. There are also some great prizes to be won. It all takes place at Club Desire (441 Main Street) from noon to 3 p.m. and the cost is \$5 per person, with \$1 from each admission donated to The Children's Hospital Foundation.



Wednesday, June 9

Get a taste of what's to come in Reel Pride XI as the Winnipeg Gay and Lesbian Film Society presents two screenings at the Globe Cinema (3rd Floor, Portage Place Shopping Centre). First up, at 7:30 p.m., it's the fiery *Benzina* (in Italian, with English subtitles) and then at 9:30 it's the tragic love story of *Yossi & Jagger* (in Hebrew, with English subtitles).

Friday, June 11

The Pride Retro '60s Coffeehouse, held at Crossways In Common (Furby & Broadway), is a folkie, non-alcoholic, non-smoking, entertaining evening for all ages. Admission to this event is by donation. Enjoy coffee, tea, cold drinks, and pastries while you take in the talents of this year's lineup of musical, literary and comedic acts, starting at 7:30 p.m. and running 'til 10:30. This annual event was filled to capacity in 2003, so get there early if you don't want to miss out on the fun.

Saturday, June 12

Don your brightest rainbow colours for Cocktails in the Trees, an evening of smart cocktails, sharp food and live entertainment in the loft and on the roof deck of 62 Evanson Street. This unique event helps raise money for Winnipeg's Rainbow Resource Centre and is always a popular feature of Winnipeg's annual Pride celebrations. The festivities start at 7 p.m. and run until 10:30 p.m., and admission is \$25 (\$15 of the cost will be issued as a tax receipt).

Sunday June 13

Before you march in the Pride Parade, you need to get pumped up, so be sure to join us for the Pride Rally on the steps of the Manitoba Legislative Building (Broadway Avenue and Memorial Boulevard). It all gets going at noon, with motivational speakers and music to raise your spirits, a perfect set-up for the big Winnipeg Pride 2004 Parade, starting at 12:30 p.m.

The route starts in the traffic circle of the Legislative Building and winds its way through the streets of downtown Winnipeg. Floats, families, and fabulous costumes will make for a colour and festive journey through the city centre, winding up with the Pride Festival Stage & Fair.

From noon to 5 p.m., Memorial Park will be a hub of activity, especially since this year's Festival Fair and Market is shaping up to be the biggest one ever! Here you can meet with the organizers of community groups; sample wares from local artists, craftspeople, and merchants; and meet some of the businesses that work in and with the GLBT community. The Pride Committee is also pleased to present Dominique Reynolds on this year's Pride Festival stage. Dominique has played in numerous folk and blues festivals and is a contributing member of Madrigaia. Her winning stage performances have garnered her two people's choice awards at Western Canada's prestigious song writing gala Chant' Oues.

Sunday, June 13

The Winnipeg Convention Centre (Hall A, Third Floor) is the place to be and 'Jackhammer: Tearing Down The Walls' is the event to attend. It promises to be like nothing Winnipeg's community has ever seen! Building on the successful Pride socials of the past, we dance into the present with this one, and our team of professionals has constructed an unforgettable night to mark the 2004 festivities. This year we go bigger! We go louder! We go longer! With the massive new venue in the heart of the city, we expect this event to sell out, so be sure to get your tickets (\$20 in advance and \$25 at the door) early. 'Jackhammer: Tearing Down The Walls' runs from 8 p.m. to 2 a.m.

Sunday, June 13

The Empire Cabaret provides the host venue as Winnipeg Pride goes Bollywood! A thousand and one 'queer' tales were woven to set the stage for *Shaharazad: Tales of a Bathroom Queer*, the jewel in the crown of this elaborate Arabian Night. Saris, sashes, jewels and long eyelashes are all part of the hyper-glam fun, and prizes will be awarded for best costume. This Pride Cabaret offers a great mix of live entertainment and dancing, with a frisky twist, and is a perfect way to cap off the 2004 celebration. Doors open at 7 and the show starts at 8 p.m. Tickets for the event are \$15 in advance and \$18 at the door.

Gay Resort
Virtual Tour

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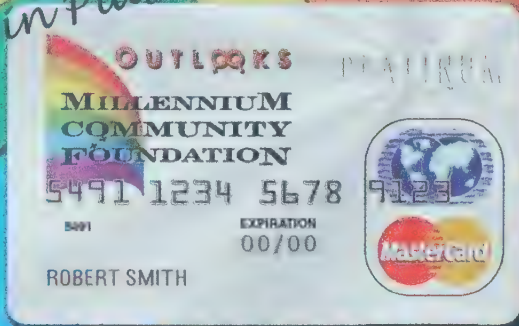
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TORONTO

Sunday, June 20

Start the celebration off right with the Official Kick-off Party at Woody's!

Monday, June 21

Kick-off the work week on a high note with the Flag Raising at City Hall and a reading of the official City of Toronto Pride Week Proclamation—Celebrating with 2 Spirited People on their 15th anniversary and marking National Aboriginal Day

Friday, June 25

NEW! Fun Friday offers Tropical Mix Entertainment in the South Beverage Garden, featuring music and entertainment with a queer Caribbean flavour. This event will be hot-hot-hot and is not to be missed!

NEW! Whether you're a pitcher, a catcher or somewhere in-between, be sure



to catch Pride Day with the Blue Jays. (vs. Montreal Expos), a Pride Toronto 2004 Official Event. Some will go to Pride Toronto. With partial proceeds from ticket sales, there will be a pre-game presentation of a cheque to Pride Toronto. Also included in the afternoon will be a special guest to throw the first pitch, a special guest (or group) to sing the national anthem and in-

stadium events throughout the game. This event follows Pride Baseball events in other cities like Chicago and San Francisco.

NEW! Join us for the Speakers Series Fundraiser entitled 'Queer Parenting: The Kids Are Alright' with Ann-Marie MacDonald/Alisa Palmer & Dan Savage at the MacMillan Theatre on the University of Toronto campus (Edward Johnson Building, 80 Queen's Park Crescent). Tickets are available at This Ain't the Rosedale Library, Toronto Women's Bookstore and online at www.pridetoronto.com at a cost of \$15. This event is wheelchair accessible and there will be ASL Interpretation. Free childcare is available with pre-registration.

Saturday, June 26

NEW! The Pride Ball Toronto Fundraiser takes place at the CNE Automotive Building—join over 4,000 others for Canada's largest Pride party, with special guests Chaka Khan and DJ Barry Harris. All net proceeds to benefit Pride Toronto. For more information or to buy tickets, visit www.prideballtoronto.com

Check out the Fruit Loopz Youth Stage in the Alexander St. Parkette and inside Buddies in Bad Times Theatre space. This multi-discipline youth arts festival features music, art, performance, comedy, video, dance and the hottest young DJs around, all under 25 years of age.

Toronto's famous Dyke March gets rolling at 2 p.m. sharp; see Web listings for more details.

The 519 Pride Beverage Garden (a women-only event) runs in Cawthra Park, while the Intimate Community Fair takes place on Church Street.

Two-day Activities:

Saturday, June 26 / Sunday, June 27

Back again after incredible success in 2003, the Community Café will take place at Paul Kane Parkette, with space for community groups to hold their own events.

Enjoy a break from the sun and crowds at Junior Pride, a child-accompanied area. This alcohol-/substance-free space is located at the Church Street School (exterior) and offers a shaded area, playground, arts & crafts and entertainment for the kids. Bring your blanket and relax. (Kids are asked not to let their parents wander off)

NEW! Saturday's Intimate Marketplace is new this year and is located on Church Street south of Alexander. Join us once again for Sunday's Huge Marketplace, featuring 100 businesses and artisans

coming out to meet their favourite customers in the parking lot across from Wellesley Subway Station.

Pride Toronto Beverage Gardens 2004: Saturday's beverage gardens are located in the North (VIA rail stage), South (Labatt stage) and Central Stage, while Sunday's beverage gardens are located in the North (VIA rail stage), South (Labatt stage) and Central Stage, as well as at AlternaQueer next to Buddies in Bad Times Theatre.

The Dis/Ability Resources Committee exists to ensure that the activities of Pride Week do not exclude any person due to unnecessary barriers, and will be providing viewing areas during the Dyke March and Pride Parade, as well as viewing areas for the Entertainment Stages. Also among the



services they offer are: American Sign Language (ASL) interpreting services for the deaf and hard-of hearing; mobility assistants; Dyke March & Pride Parade Guides; wheelchair lending services; attendant care workers; audiocassettes of the Pride Guide and about Pride Toronto; rest stations for working dogs; and a rest, social and information area at the Dis/Ability Resources Headquarters. Again this year, a portion of the toilets on our site will be wheelchair accessible

Sunday, June 27

The world-famous Pride Parade, led by Grand Marshal George Hislop and followed by the Lesbian and Gay Community Appeal as Honoured Group, will begin at 2 p.m.

Blockorama—Blackness Yes! is pleased to announce its 6th annual celebration in the Pride Marketplace.



Freezone, an alcohol/substance-free area at Paul Kane Parkette, offers an oasis in the middle of the storm.

Weary? Thirsty? Cool off in Cawthra Park with The 519 Pride Beverage Garden, an 18-year tradition.

This year's Huge Community Fair, located on Wellesley between Church and Yonge Streets, affords Pride-goers the opportunity to visit over 100 community groups and meet others who share their interests.

Catch some of Toronto's best disc masters at the Wellesley Street Stage, an open-air, alcohol-free, all-ages area.

Please visit the Pride Toronto website (www.pridetoronto.com) often, as times and locations will be updated and further information posted as information becomes available.

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Ontario Pride Listings 2004

OTTAWA

Ottawa Pride 2004: still growing, still strong

The official dates of Pride 2004 are July 5-11, but we're starting our celebrations a little early this year. Join us Thursday, July 1st for the Labatt Parking Lot Pride Party, co-sponsored by The Lookout Bar. This all-day party will be in the heart of Ottawa's queer neighbourhood, at the corner of Bank and Somerset.

On July 3rd and 4th, Tone Cluster, The Ottawa Gay Men's Chorus, ¡Ole!, and Germany's Schola Cantorosa will perform in the 'A Gala Before the Gala' concert at Bronson Centre.



Flag-raising will mark the start of Pride 2004 on Monday, July 5.

The party really gets going July 9th with a triple threat: the Canadian International Leather Competition; the Scotch and Cigar Boat Cruise; and a Pride movie night under the stars.

Saturday, July 10 offers something for everyone-for the younger queer, there's Generation Sensation: Young. Hip. Hot!, with offerings that include everything from

a coffee and tea-tasting event to dance parties and big-screen movies! Saturday is also Women's Day. The afternoon starts with softball, volleyball, and a barbeque. From the park, women will be picked up for an all-women's boat cruise. Everyone will then meet up at a private party at the Lookout Bar (41 York St.), with live performances by Ottawa's own Sonic Aria, New York's Karen Jacobsen and many others.

The day ends with the Big Shiny Ball 2, our annual benefit party. Proceeds will be shared between the Pride Committee of Ottawa-Gatineau and Bruce House. The event takes place at the National Arts Centre and features a banquet and Much Music Video Dance Party, with live performances by Sherry Gold and Disco Inferno.

We'll let you rest a little on the 11th... but only a little! The Pride Parade starts around 1p.m. at the corner of Catherine and Elgin and will take you right to the Street Festival. Bank Street will be transformed into Pride Town Square, with a collection of patios, beer gardens, children's activities, vendors and live acts including Philadelphia's Boot-lickers and New York's Rachael Sage.

For festival lineups, parade maps and applications, or to volunteer with us, visit www.prideottawa.com.

LONDON

The Main Festival will take place at the Western Fair Grounds, located at 316 Rectory Street, and will feature a variety of vendors, live entertainment, two warehouse dances

July 9-11 10 a.m. through 2 a.m. (Friday & Saturday)

The Pride Parade kicks off July 11, starting at 12 noon, downtown at King & Richmond.

Other related events will include an Art Show to be held from July 2-17 at Arts Project, located at 203 Dundas Street.

A Pride Movie Festival will take place at Rainbow Cinemas, located at 355 Wellington Street (second level of the Galleria Mall, downtown). This event runs July 3rd from 8 p.m. to 11 p.m., and on July 4th. Times for the second screening are TBA



A Literary Night will also be held at Arts Project (203 Dundas Street) on July 7th, starting at 8 p.m.

The focus of the 2004 celebration is on culture, arts and entertainment, but the warehouse parties are a lot of fun too! Be sure to come out and support your community in the name of Pride. For more information or for updates on events and activities, log onto www.londonpride.ca

HAMILTON

Visit www.hamiltonpride.com for updates and further information on the Pride events planned for that area.

THUNDER BAY

For information on Pride celebrations and activities in the Thunder Bay region, please visit their website, located at www.pridecentral.ca

NOTE: All listings in the 2004 Outlooks National Pride Guide are accurate and up-to-date as provided at press time. We cannot be held responsible for any changes or cancellations that occur after this publication has gone to press.

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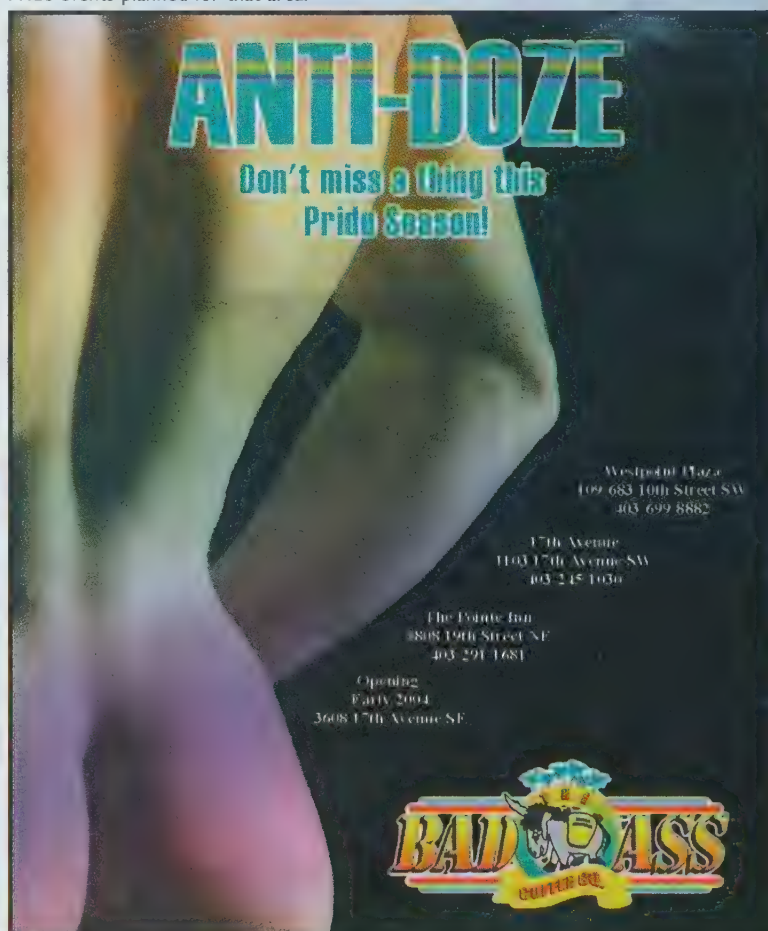
→ **Elvira Kurt** 'Canada's Funniest Female Comic'
Saturday, June 12 - 7:30pm, Gateway Lounge - SALT

Lock & Key 'Dance Party for Women'
Saturday, June 5 - 8:00pm, Inglewood Community Centre

*Tickets available at A Woman's Place Bookstore & www.girlsgo.ca

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MONTREAL

Monday, July 26

Mado au Bingo: Class and camp collide as Mado Lamotte, the mischievous maven of all Montréal Drag Queens, holds the Cabaret du Casino hostage with an evening of scathing humour, decadent drag and crazy cabaret numbers. Don't miss this fabulous evening of camp and chance at the Cabaret du Casino de Montreal, from 8 p.m. onward.



Tuesday, July 27

Cinema in the Park—Ma Vie en Rose (1997): Be sure to catch this free outdoor screening of the empowering French classic, *Ma Vie en Rose*, in Lafontaine Park, starting at 9 p.m.. Directed by Alain Berliner, this film recounts the moving story of Ludovic, a little girl born in a little boy's body.

Thursday, July 29

Cachondo—la Noche Latina: The evening heats up with a festive outdoor concert of Latin beats and beauties in Émilie-Gamelin Park, commencing at 8 p.m.

Friday, July 30

Boulevard des rêves: Cabaret Queen Marleen Ménard hosts an evening of jazz, pop, blues and soul under the stars, featuring an impressive number of Quebec's most talented musical divas and daddies, along with a bunch of fresh new voices. This not-to-be-missed event takes place in Émilie-Gamelin Park, starting at 7 p.m.

Homorama: Bored with your sex life? Spice things up at the naughtiest party in town. Indulge your tastes for leather, latex, fetish and fantasies while DJ Frigid spins dirty electro. This evening of naughty fun takes place at the Just For Laughs Museum (2111 St. Laurent) starting at 10 p.m.

Saturday, July 31

Community Day: Situated at the cross-

roads of culture and community, Divers/Cité's widely popular Community Day attracts people who want to be informed about Montréal's various gay and lesbian community groups, ranging from sporting associations and social clubs to human rights organizations. This all-encompassing community event is situated along St. Catherine Street (between St. Denis and St. Hubert) and Berri Street (between René-Lévesque and de Maisonneuve) and starts at 11 a.m.

Sunset Party: A series of afternoon concerts beginning at 1 p.m. paves the way for the ultimate experience in outdoor dancing. The Sunset Party features the best in international and local DJs playing for a large crowd in Émilie-Gamelin Park, beginning at 5 p.m.

Sex Garage, part one: Spread over two nights this year, Sex Garage features cutting edge performances and music by queer rock and electro acts. The stage is located on de Maisonneuve Boulevard (between St. Denis and Berri).

Mascara, La nuit des Drags: What else can be said that hasn't already? This is, without a doubt, the hottest, largest, most outrageous drag show anywhere. Period. Directed and hosted by the one and only Mado Lamotte, this event has to be seen in order to be believed. Don't miss the fun on Berri Street (at the corner of Ontario), from 8 p.m. onward.

Lesbomonde: The largest party on Montreal's lesbian social calendar, Lesbomonde attracts both local party girls and out-of-town visitors, with DJs, dancing and performances in two cavernous spaces. It all takes place in the Just for Laughs Museum, located at 2111 St. Laurent, starting at 10 p.m.

Sunday, August 1

The Parade: Whether it is in six-inch heels, combat boots, running shoes or on wheels, people from all walks of life will be taking to the streets of Montréal to celebrate their collective belief in the importance and beauty of diversity. This blazing procession of colour, community, sass and sexiness makes its way along René-Lévesque boulevard, from Guy to St. Denis, starting at noon.

Post-Parade Party: All for one and one for all! After the parade, there will be entertainment for all tastes: whether you want to dance to the large beats at La Grande Danse, rock out to part two of Sex Garage, listen to Concerts in the Park or Chill Out in our lounge area, this afternoon-through-evening event will have you all set up! The mayhem and merriment will occur in and around Émilie-Gamelin Park.

Pride Ball: Capping the festivities, this all-night, after-hours event featuring local and international DJs will have you vibrating for weeks to come. The location for this Pride mega-event is yet to be determined, so log onto our official website (www.diverscite.com) for updates and further information.



Moderation is a fatal thing.
Nothing succeeds like excess.

Oscar Wilde

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MONCTON

Saturday, June 12

The fun kicks off with Family Day.

An All Colour party will be held at Triangles Bar.

Sunday, June 13

Pride Church Services commence at 5:30 p.m. at Century United Church.

Mr. Moncton Leather Contest takes place at Triangles Bar.

Monday, June 14

To be announced.

Tuesday, June 15

Be at City Hall for a Flag Raising in honour of Pride week; a Wine and Cheese reception will follow afterwards at Triangles Bar.

Wednesday, June 16

Bowling will take place at a venue to be determined at a later date. See www.monctonrainbowalliance.com for updates.

Thursday, June 17

Triangles Bar will host a special edition of Pride Karaoke.

Friday, June 18

Prom Night will take place at Triangles Bar.

Saturday, June 19

The Pride Parade will begin at City Hall, starting at 1 p.m. Special activities will take place at Summit Park on St. George Street until 5 p.m. That evening, come dance the night away at Triangles Bar.

Sunday, June 20

Come say goodbye to another great year, and have Brunch with us. Venue to be announced.

Throughout the week, Lounge 245, on Lutz Street, will also be holding events.

For further information or event updates, visit our official site at www.monctonrainbowalliance.com or contact us by e-mail for more details at: info@monctonrainbowalliance.com

FREDERICTON

Lead-up Events

Tuesday, June 1

Activities still to be arranged; for more information, e-mail: piers792000@yahoo.ca

Wednesday, June 2

Dooleys downtown is hosting a FREE billiards night/tournament. Contact

piers792000@yahoo.ca for further details

Thursday, June 3

Splash into Pride with guided kayaking/canoeing. Again, for information on times and location, contact: piers792000@yahoo.ca

Friday, June 4

Join members of the community for a movie screening (likely *Hairspray*). Times, confirmed title and venue are to be determined at a later date; e-mail: frederictonpride2004@yahoo.ca for further details.

Saturday, June 5

It's a non-stop celebration morning, noon and night with our Softball Tournament, Community Day, and Pride Dance. In the event of rain, a movie screening will take place at a venue to be determined. At the start of the festivities, MP Elizabeth Weir might be dropping by (to be confirmed) to speak at our big Pride day on Saturday June 5, which starts at 10 a.m. at the aptly named Queen's Square Field in Fredericton (e-mail: frederictonpride2004@yahoo.ca for directions). Other speakers are still being arranged for the day and updates will be made available as they are confirmed.

We are hosting a softball tournament here and participating teams (both local and those from 'away') will be playing until 6 p.m. Wanna play? Then send an e-mail to: w_narvey@hotmail.com for details. A \$2 per person registration fee will be due the day of the tournament. We are also looking for players to participate in our Exhibition game: Kings vs. Queens. If you would like to participate in this game please indicate in your e-mail. Those participating in this game can still take part in the tournament being played.

For those non-sporting types, we will be having a community day around the field grounds with local groups setting up tables and the like. We encourage you all to bring your picnic blankets, lawn chairs and a brownbag lunch while music plays and various speakers speak! If you want to read poetry, perform monologues or music, etc. please contact the group. All ages welcome to attend this event. Following the tournament and community day there will be a Pride Dance held in conjunction with Aids NB, The Queer and Other Folks Dance Committee and the East Coast Bears at the UNB Social Club which is located in the Student Union Building at the University of New Brunswick. Doors open at 9 p.m. and dancing goes on until 1 p.m. Tickets for the dance are \$5 at the door. Here, through Fietre Fredericton Pride 2004, you will have the opportunity to win gift certificates from places such as: Venus Envy; The Mermaid and Cow camp ground near Halifax; Westminster Books; a night for two for two nights at the Maple Lane Bed and Breakfast in Tetagoche; CDs donated by CHSR; and artwork created especially for the occasion by local artist Lisa Fox. This list will keep growing thanks to the wonderful support we are receiving from businesses all over Canada, so it's a raffle worth entering!

The Fietre Fredericton Pride Committee wishes all its visitors a wonderful and happy Pride.

HALIFAX

Thursday, July 8 to Sunday, July 18

Pride Art Exhibits will be held at Khyber Club (1588 Barrington), Club Vortex (2215 Gottingen) & Venus Envy (1598 Barrington). The exhibit will remain up at Club Vortex until August 1. Submission deadline for the show is June 19, and interested parties may contact Halifax Pride by e-mail at: events@halifaxpride.org or by telephone at (902) 229-1211. The openings take place at Khyber Club from 7 to 8:30 p.m. and Club Vortex from 8:30 'til 10 p.m.

Sunday, July 11

The Halifax Commons Diamond 11 (corner of Robie and Cogswell) is the site for the Tits and Mitts Softball Game, which runs from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. The game starts at 2 p.m. and a barbecue is slated to follow. Look for the Pride flag, sponsorship banners and prize giveaways.

Monday, July 12

Be at Grand Parade Square for the official Mayor's Proclamation of Pride week. Please see our website for further details (www.halifaxpride.org)

Tuesday, July 13

Get your Pride spirits into high gear with This Way Out Damned Spot! Comedy Night at Gingers Tavern on Barrington Street. The show runs from 9 p.m. to midnight and cover is \$5.

The Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Youth Project (2281 Brunswick) is hosting an alcohol-free Pride Kick-off event, from 6 to 9 p.m. This drop-in event is a chance to mingle over pizza and get geared up for the week ahead.



Wednesday, July 14

Reel Pride III Part 1 (day 1 of 2) will take place at Turret at the Khyber Club (1588 Barrington) from 6:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. Cover charge for this event is \$5.

The Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Youth Project will be hosting a Youth Pride Movie Night, from 7 to 10 p.m. This is a drug- and alcohol-free event for those 25 and under.

Thursday, July 15

Reel Pride III Part 2 continues (day 2 of 2) at Reflections Cabaret (5184 Sackville) from 6:30 p.m. 'til 10:30 p.m. Cover is \$5 for this event.



Join The Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Youth Project for a Youth Pride Barbecue, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Friday, July 16

The Halifax Pride Ambassador Contest will kick-off at Reflections Cabaret (5184 Sackville St.), starting at 8 p.m.

Judging criteria breakdown is as follows: Speech 35%; Performance 30%; Formal Wear 15%. Think you've got what it takes? Then get out there and strut your stuff!

Saturday, July 17

Just to get you in the mod, Club Vortex (2215 Gottingen) is hosting a Pride Parade Booster Brunch, from 10 a.m. 'til noon, at the club. Remember: it's the "most important meal of the day", not to mention a great energy booster!

Come celebrate Pride Day in a big way, starting with the 2004 Pride Parade! Marshalling will take place on Maitland Street (behind Club NRG) starting at 12:30 p.m., with the actual procession commencing at 1:30 p.m. Following the parade, a Reception and Awards Presentation will take place at Sackville Landing (the end of the parade route) starting at 3:30 p.m. Chebucto Landing will be a new area with family-oriented booths, interactive games and things for the kids to enjoy.

For details, updates or more information on these events and other events too numerous to mention, visit our website at: www.halifaxpride.org

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Celebrating 5 Years of Pride in PEI!

Join us for Prince Edward Island's 5th annual Pride Festival, which runs July 3-11, 2004. For up-to-the-minute schedule details, accommodations, tourism information and much more, check out our new website at www.pridepei.com. You can also contact us by e-mail at pridepei@isn.net, or phone (902) 894-5776; toll-free 1-877-380-5776.

Saturday, July 3

Join us for a Golf Tournament, BBQ and Karaoke, at the Vista Bay Golf Course in Alexandra, PEI. Tournament registration begins at 1:30 p.m. and the charge for green fees is \$15 per

continued opposite



Maritimes Pride Listings 2004

from previous person, or \$40 for 2 with a golf cart. After the afternoon's fun on the links, a BBQ will be held at 6 p.m.; tickets are \$12 and those who wish to attend must pre-register. All ages (there will be special prices for youth under 19) are



welcome until 8 p.m., at which point the Karaoke begins, free of charge. To pre-register for BBQ (required) or Golf (to guarantee your spot) call (902) 367-2696 by June 30.

Sunday, July 4

A Church Service will be held in celebration of Pride and all ages are welcome to attend. The location and time of this event is yet to be determined.

Monday, July 5

Flag Raising (time TBA) will take place in Charlottetown & Summerside

Dunes Studio Gallery & Café presents Art in the Garden & Literary Reading at their space at Brackley Beach, from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. This is an all-ages event, and a portion of the proceeds will be donated to the GLBT Youth Group.

Tuesday, July 6

All ages are welcome to partake in Mini Golf at Sherwood Greens, starting at 6 p.m. The cost to play is \$5 per person.

Wednesday, July 7

Olivia Cruises comes to Charlottetown! Be on hand to greet our visitors at 8 a.m. at the Waterfront.

Thursday, July 8

A Pride Softball Game will take place at Carrefour Diamond (5 Promenade Acadienne) starting at 6 p.m. All ages are welcome to join in the fun. A Post-Game Social will be held at Mexico Lindo commencing at 9 p.m., and all ages are welcome for this portion of the evening, too.

Friday, July 9

Tickle yourself pink with A Night of



Comedy & Silent Auction at the Delta Prince Edward Hotel Ballroom. The event is hosted by Electra and will feature performances by Wade Lynch, Cynthia Dunsford, Kathleen Hamilton and many others. Doors open and the silent auction begins at 8 p.m., with the show starting at 9. Admission for this event is \$10 and limited to those 19 years of age & over.

Saturday, July 10

Step lively and get into the act with the 4th Annual Pride Parade. Form-up begins in the Provincial Government Parking Lot (Euston/Government Drive) at 1:15 p.m., with the Parade commencing at 2 p.m. Following the parade, join us for the Festival in the Park at Confederation Landing, an afternoon of fun for the family and 'family' from 2:30 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Later that evening, the fun continues

with the big Pride Dance, which is being held in the ballroom of the Delta Prince Edward Hotel from 9 p.m. 'til 2 a.m. Admission to the dance is \$10 and limited to patrons 19 & over.

Sunday, July 11

All ages are welcome to finish off the week's celebration with a Wrap-Up BBQ at Linkletter Beach, Summerside, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. BBQ facilities will be provided, so all you have to do is bring your own food and a good, strong sense of community pride!

All events for P.E.I. Pride 2004 are wheelchair accessible.

ST. JOHN'S

Please log onto the city's official Pride site, which is located at: www.geocities.com/pridestjs/pg1wel.html for more information and updates.



HAPPY PRIDE 2004

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mountainous region from a perspective few ever do.

A growing emphasis on resorts and activities that operate all year long has made the Okanagan valley a particular delight to tourists visiting from all corners of the globe, and Silver Star has not been one to miss out on the opportunity. The winter is most certainly not the only time the resort shines though. Year 'round adventure activities are increasing in popularity with incredible conditions for mountain biking, nature hikes and wildflower tours to fill your day.

Perhaps the best selling feature of the resort, though, is its accessibility to a public overwhelmed by the price of a vacation in a spot like Whistler. Accommodations at Silver Star range from \$17 for a night at the mountain's SameSun International Hostel to just over \$1,000 per night for a six-bedroom executive home. A well-appointed room for two adults can be had for well under \$200 a night, even during the busiest times of the year.

On the way back down Highway 97, a stop at Gray Monk winery will enable you to take in truly majestic views of Okanagan Lake and relax with a meal on the patio. Like Summerhill, Gray Monk boasts both a beautiful restaurant

overlooking the lake and fine tastings in its wine shop.

Meals can be had at a number of great locations in the city as well, ones that don't come with a considerable price tag. Primadonna at the Accent Inn features hearty and traditional Italian food. When served the chicken cannelloni, touch the salad first and suffer the comedic wrath of the wait staff who will insist on you beginning with the pasta. When you do make it to the main course, you won't be disappointed. For a lighter lunch, To Die For on Bernard Avenue is a trendy café that serves exceptional sandwiches and soups from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., six days a week. Even the local soft rock radio station, Silk FM, has picked up on the eats, and Chef Michael Anger appears regularly on-air to share quick, easy recipes with the masses. If you're dining in person at the eatery, though, I suggest you order the Warm Chicken Salad sandwich for a unique treat. And, if you are tired of creamy chicken noodle soups, the exceptionally light and fresh version served at To Die For will do just perfectly. A motel sign on the way to Vernon may feature the unsanitary suggestion, "Bring your steak, use our BBQ" but the restaurants in Kelowna should not be overlooked by vacationers.

With travel deals on local mountains and warm hospitality in

the city's centre, Kelowna and its surrounding Okanagan valley are perfect summer hotspots. Referred to as the Florida of the North by local websites, the Okanagan boasts all-season adventure tours, sumptuous dining experiences and unique vacation options for a broad demographic, 365 days a year. Relax at a local winery or hike up steep hills to unrivalled views—the Okanagan valley has a bounty of vacation options for any taste and budget. ▼

Josh Murray is a Vancouver-based writer, ad exec. and all-around good time. For more log onto www.joshmurray.ca

The Best for the Least

Don't want to spend a fortune on wine while you're touring the Okanagan? It's hard to resist a fine vintage but not impossible. Here are five fine whites for the summer that won't hurt the pocket book...

Red Rooster Bantam: A fine blend of three whites that succeeds year after year.

Cedar Creek Proprietor's White: A bargain bottle that has been discovered lately by the masses.

Gray Monk Gewurztraminer: A gewurz that avoids the common pitfall of overt sweetness.

Elephant Island Pear Wine: The perfect summer dinner wine, full of fruit flavour.

Summerhill Pinot Gris: Light, light, light; an easy-to-drink, seasonal white.



A glimpse of Silver Star's colourful alpine village

The entrance to Gray Monk Winery



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Return @ 9:00pm

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visit www.twpe.ca for more details

Pulse

By Pat Johnson

offer a big wedding at a small wedding price. For more info on the nuptial packages, e-mail jfabre@gfgg.com or, for details on the trade show in general, see www.glba.org.

✦✦ **Who among us doesn't adore Miss Julie Andrews?** Rainy City Gay Men's Chorus is celebrating the career and music of our Julie, with "My Favourite Things: A Tribute to Julie Andrews", which runs June 10, 11 and 12 at the Vancouver East Cultural Centre. Tickets are \$20 at TicketMaster, Little Sisters or David Blue Hair Design or get the down-low at www.rainycity.ca.

✦✦ **Shakespeare in love** Speaking of marriage, there's a recurring theme at this year's Bard on the Beach, as the 15th annual Vancouver tradition kicks off June 3 with three Shakespearian offerings performed under tents on Kits Point. *The Merry Wives of Windsor* is on the bill this year and, throughout the summer, you can catch a marriage a lot less merry with *Macbeth*, beginning June 26. If there's been all too much talk about marriage lately, perhaps catch *Much Ado About Nothing*, (also premiering June 3). This year's festival offers fifty-two extra performances compared to last year and organizers expect about 80,000 audience members this season, up from 67,000 in 2003.

Bard runs until September 26 and the most expensive tix are just \$27, including taxes, which makes it not only one of Vancouver's most unique and fun theatre experiences, but one of the most affordable. Special events include: the annual "Bard-B-Q and Fireworks" celebrations (July 28 and 31, August 4 and 7); the Words and Music Concerts, this year featuring A Merry Evening of Opera (August 23 and 30); A Taste of Mission Hill wine event (August 14); a free dramatic reading at Tea with King Lear (August 29); the Young Shakespeareans workshops; and more. Call (604) 739-0559 (toll-free 877-739-0559) or get tix online at www.bardonthebeach.org.

✦✦ **Excuse me, that's not the pepper mill** I'm one of those who likes to see what

✦✦ **Get me to the trade show on time!** If getting married at a trade show is your idea of romance, then the GLBA has a deal for you. The Gay and Lesbian Business Association is offering a package for couples who want to tie the knot at Vancouver's Hyatt Regency during the Third Annual GLBA Business and Lifestyles Expo on September 26. The idea, it seems, is to

I'm eating, but if you're looking for a sensual experience in the dark, there's Dinner in the Dark, a German-inspired live comedy show in the pitch black, with cocktails and dinner served by waiters in night-vision goggles. This culinary peculiarity (tix are \$45) takes place on the last Tuesday of every month at DV8 Lounge, 515 Davie St. Don't want to be "kept in the dark before you tuck into your supper?" Then you might want to get more information at (604) 317-8203.

✦✦ **RU12 in NV?** If it sometimes seems like a long way from the North Shore to Commercial Drive, dykes across the inlet can get together now at the North Shore Lesbian and Bisexual Women's Drop-in Group, which takes place on the last Monday of each month at the North Shore Women's Centre (944 West 16th St., North Van). The gathering runs from 7 through 9 p.m. and you can get more info at (604) 984-6009 or www.vcn.bc.ca/nswc/index.html. Guest speakers, special events, community involvement, socializing with North Shore women—what's not to like!! Meanwhile, the North Shore Women's Centre had a bake sale in March that was so successful they've decided to do it over again—this time with a garage sale, to boot. The garage and bake sale takes place Saturday, June 5, from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

✦✦ **Wave your PFLAG** Speaking of friendly meetings, the Vancouver-area chapter of Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays holds meetings every second and fourth Monday of the month (unless it's a stat holiday). If you or someone you know would like to attend, it's at the South Burnaby Neighbourhood House, located at 4845 Imperial St., Burnaby (Close to Metrotown Shopping Centre, next to Bonsor Park) Get more info and check out the cool pics at www.pflagvancouver.com.

✦✦ **Run like a girl** A major track and field event for GLBT athletes takes place in Seattle July 24. The International Front Runners Games will attract plenty of Vancouver area individuals and teams, including Vancouver Front Runners, our community gay and lesbian running group that recently outdistanced the competition in the team/association category of the Vancouver Sun Run. The International Front Runner Games is a major event in the Pacific Northwest and it occurs at the mid-point between the quadrennial Gay Games. The last two such events occurred in Berlin and Toronto, but next month's Seattle extravaganza promises to be the largest yet and includes a complete track and field meet. For information on the IFR Games, please see www.frontrunners.org or contact Andrew Williams at Camper19@yahoo.com. After twenty years in Vancouver, Front Runners has expanded rapidly since the Sydney Gay Games, according to organizers; runners are now active throughout the year and the group offers a novice women's running clinic as well as several social/team events.

MEN

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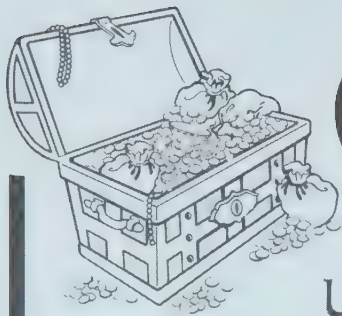
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Community Chest

Upcoming Events:

Third Monday of Every Month

The Party - Presented by the Lords of the "House of Just Cuz" at the Dufferin, this combination Drag Show and party with contests and draws, benefits A Loving Spoonful. Minimum Donation \$2.00 at the door.

June 13

Cruisey-T T-Dance Cruise

DJs, drag shows, BBQ and a lot of fun!!! Partial proceeds to benefit the Vancouver Pride Society, 6:00pm - 10:00pm - \$25 in advance - \$30 at the boat.

June 17

15 Years of Love - A loving Spoonful's 15th Anniversary

Event at the Caprice Nightclub. Limited VIP tickets at \$55.00 include a Fashion Show, special guests and goodies. General Admission tickets at \$15.00

June 20

Dine With Pride - Vancouver Pride Society's 10th annual Gala Dinner

Cocktails, dinner and silent auction to benefit the VPS. Coast Plaza Hotel & Suites on Sunday, June 20th. Cocktails starting at 6:00pm, Dinner at 7:30pm Tickets: Members \$60, Non Members \$75.

Monies Raised Last Month:

During the past month the Dr. Peter AIDS Foundation recieved the following donations:

- * Shooting Stars Foundation - \$7,000.00
- * Association of Interactive Marketers, 1st Annual AIM to Aid Golf Tournament at the Swan-e-set Golf and Country Club - \$5,785.00
- * The Fountainhead Pub presenting Sex and the City - \$1,712.00

Thanks to all who came out and showed their support!

Thanks to the Vancouver Community for your support!

To pre-promote your fundraiser or report on monies raised in the next issue of *Outlooks Vancouver* email: main@outlooks.ca or fax info toll free to 1-877-885-6657

This Monthly Community Feature Brought to you by:



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fax: 604-523-9116

info@youthquest.bc.ca
www.youthquest.bc.ca

Executive Director, Youthquest!

Youthquest! Lesbian and Gay Youth Society is a leading provider of community-based educational and outreach services throughout British Columbia for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered (LGBT) youth as well as for youth questioning their gender identity and sexual orientation. Youthquest! operates drop-in centers and peer support programs throughout the Lower Mainland, Fraser Valley and Vancouver Island, and is growing in communities throughout the province. With an established presence for over ten years, this cutting edge youth organization is ready to move to a new level. We need a charismatic, passionate, strategic leader with strong community-building and dispute resolution skills. If that's you, read on!

Responsibilities of the Executive Director include:

- Fund-raising;
- Community-building & Government/Donor/Public Relations;
- Supervision & coordination of staff and volunteers;
- Program leadership & development;
- Administration & board development;
- Financial management;
- Implementing long-range planning initiatives.

Qualifications of the Executive Director include:

- Extensive experience in not-for-profit administration;
- Excellent supervision skills;
- Demonstrated teamwork, leadership & conflict resolution skills;
- Understanding of & experience with youth, LGBT & crisis intervention issues;
- High levels of organizational, time & stress management skills;
- Excellent written and verbal communication & facilitation skills;
- Degree in a related field;
- Regular access to a vehicle and valid B.C. Driver's License.

Our Executive Director will balance the needs of interpersonal relationships with the needs of getting the tasks done. The Youthquest! Executive Director is focused, strategic, communicative, responsive, facilitative, fair, outgoing, accountable, friendly, sensitive, strong and self-aware. If this describes you, B.C.'s LGBT youth need you! For more job info, visit: www.charityvillage.ca

No phone calls please. Please send a resume to ONE of the following by 4:00 PM on June 11, 2004:

email: rowly@youthquest.bc.ca
fax: "Rowly" - 604.656.2139
mail: Youthquest! DSU, PO Box 2503,
New Westminster, BC, V3L 5B2 attn: YQ! ED Search



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BILL MUNROE'S 70TH BIRTHDAY BASH

OASIS



Just Try and Tell Me I Don't Look 39!

Mr. Bill Munroe, an institution and inspiration in Vancouver's drag scene, glowing brightly on the occasion of his 70th birthday.



Moonlight Serenade

Entertainer Bryant Olander works a few "birthday bars" for the woman of the hour.

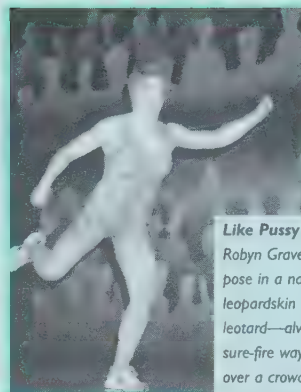
FIT FOR A QUEEN

STANLEY THEATRE



Don't Cry For Me, Mr. Blackwell...

Mandy works her gown without regret—she knows she looks good!



Like Pussy Yet?

Robyn Graves strikes a pose in a natty leopardskin leotard—always a sure-fire way to win over a crowd. Worked for Jane Fonda, didn't it? Wait, scrap that...

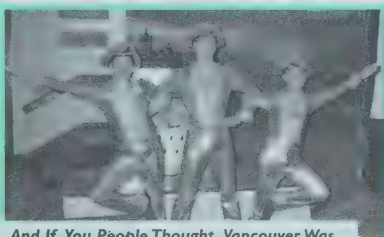


Girl, I'm going to Punch You If You Keep Telling People I'm Older Than You!

Musical goddess Sybil Thrasher takes to the mic in honour of pal Bill's big "seven-0".

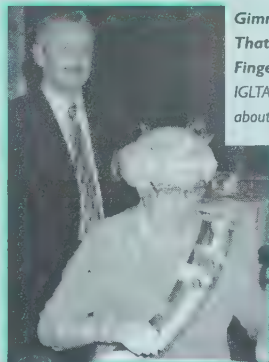
IGLTA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

COAST STANLEY PLAZA HOTEL



And If You People Thought Vancouver Was The Gayest City...

The team from Cologne sets the record straight—they'll be hosting next year's event.



Gimme A Sec... I'm Gonna Do That 'Rabbit Ear' Thing With My Fingers

IGLTA's Angus and our lovely Liz—talk about a gathering of queens!



Shut Up—I Was Going To Wear That To Pride!

Pumpjack's Vince Marino (left) and ultra-cool Mayor Larry Campbell catch up at the AGM.

DMU
INVESTITURE
DUFFERIN
HOTEL

Planning an event in Vancouver?
Contact Barry at
(604) 685-1377 and he'll see
about covering it in Out & About.
Photos By: Barry Piersdorff.



Dressed For Success

MCs Carlotta Gurl and Adrian prove handily that a riot of pattern is always appropriate when it comes to keeping the attention of easily distracted event-goers!



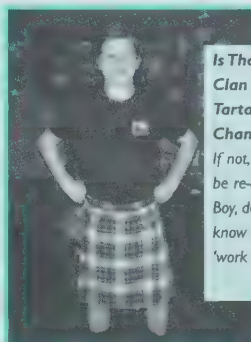
Dress Sharply And Carry A Big Stick

Actually, in a pinch, a sceptre will do. Empress Estee Louder and Emperor DJ Jules look regally radiant on the eve of their swearing in.



Aaaaand Freeze!

Cast members of Fit For A Queen take "hold" of their big finale, much to the delight of an appreciative crowd.

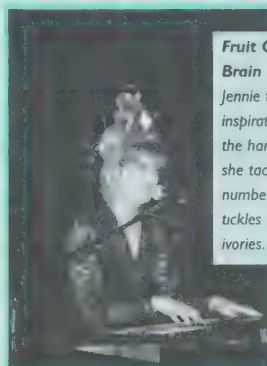


Is That The Clan McCutie Tartan, By Chance?

If not, it should be re-named. Boy, does David know how to 'work a skirt'!

STRING OF GIRLS

JUPITER



Fruit On The Brain

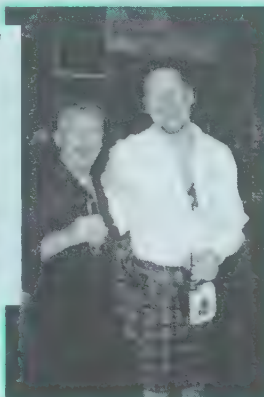
Jennie takes inspiration from the harvest as she tackles a number and tucks the ivories.

NIGHT

PUMPKACK PUB

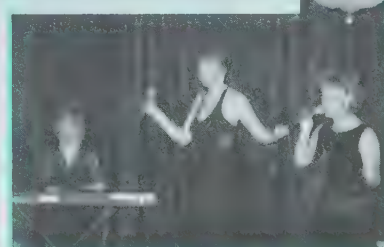
Hey—I Just Found His Keys!

Man-about-town, Angus Praught (left) gives Richard a friendly little fondle, just to demonstrate that the whole effort was worth his while. Worth whose while, Angus?!



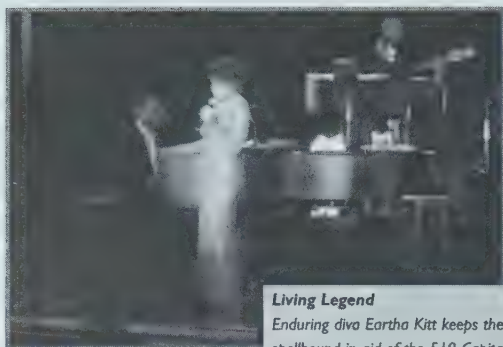
Take It, Girls—I Gotta Shimmy

Laura takes a break from vocals to "cover the vanguard", as Jennie and Linda play on.



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519 CAPITAL CAMPAIGN BENEFIT ROYAL YORK HOTEL



Living Legend

Enduring diva Eartha Kitt keeps the crowd spellbound in aid of the 519 Capital Campaign.



Maybe That Should Be "Miss Smooching Gina"...

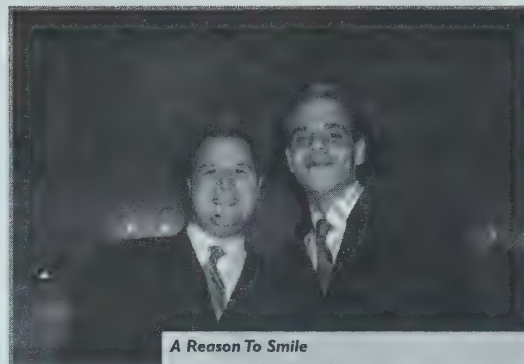
MuchMusic producer/Unity founder Jason Ford "gets a little sugar" from Toronto diva Miss Screaming Gina.

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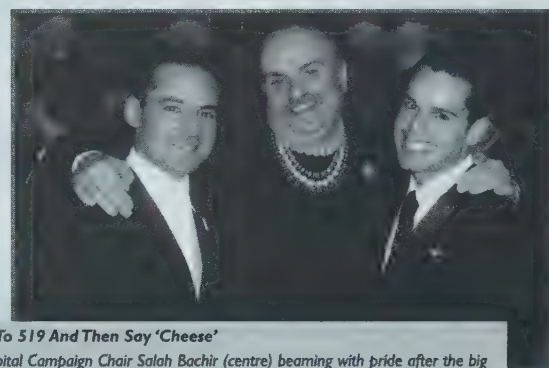
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Planning an event in Toronto?
Contact us via e-mail at:
editor@outlooks.ca and we'll
see about covering it in
Out & About.



A Reason To Smile

Jean-François Legaré and partner Noah were obviously pleased with how their evening turned out.



Count To 519 And Then Say 'Cheese'

519 Capital Campaign Chair Salah Bachir (centre) beaming with pride after the big event. He's seen here flanked by Marcelo Gomez-Wiuckstern (left) and Marcelo's husband Mathieu Chantelois.

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Sunday

Sunday Night Sex Show with
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Amateur Strip & Amateur Drag

Monday

Betro Nights - Dance All Night Long
+ Special Shows - Cheep Cheep!

Tuesday

Tickle Me Tuesday's
with Carlotta & Guests

Wednesday

Male Strippers
at 10pm & 11pm

Thursday

Mz. Adrien's & Friends
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Longest Running Drag Show!

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MY FAVOURITE THINGS
A SALUTE TO JULIE ANDREWS



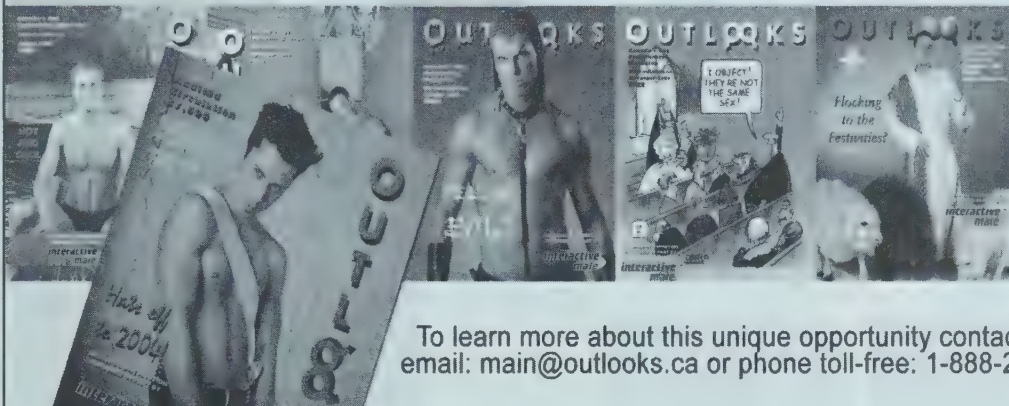
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Participate in a Community Research Project on Q/LBT Women and the Internet



UBC Prof., and member of the Lesbian, Bi, Trans and Two-Spirited Women's Research Network of B.C., <http://www.inquery.net>, Dr. Mary Bryson is currently studying how B.C. and Alberta Q/LBT women (lesbians, dykes, trans., queer, bi) make use of the Internet, e.g., accessing knowledge and community resources, and/or creating websites, joining email lists and/or online chatting, ICQ etc... Interview locations (flexible) include: Alberta - Grande Prairie, Fort McMurray, Edmonton and Red Deer; B.C. - Vancouver, Nanaimo, Prince George and Cranbrook. If you would like to participate in a 1 hour confidential interview, Mary Bryson would like to hear from you. Email: mary.bryson@ubc.ca Mary Bryson's research websites: <http://www.shecan.com>, <http://www.queerville.ca>.

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ARGRA Rodeo - July 2-4, 2004

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The Distress Centre:
Christopher McIntosh (403) 266-1601 ext. 3006
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Christina Rivard (403) 206-8338
Calgary Communities Against Sexual Abuse
(CCASA) (403) 237-5888
Shelter:
Wheatlands Community (403) 934-6634
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OUTLOOKS

Sun On The Mountains BOOK LAUNCH
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Trafford Jam

Sun on the Mountains: The Story of Blue Eye author Tyler Trafford reads aloud from his novel.

JULIA TURNBULL NOMINATION MEETING
SOUTHERN ALBERTA PIONEER MEMORIAL BUILDING



Political Partiers

Julia Turnbull poses with members of her support team, all proud of a job well done.

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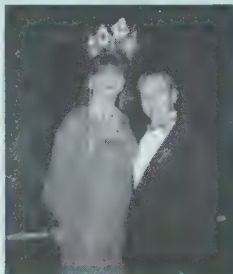
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INVESTITURE
METRO/BOYZTOWN

You'd Think It Was The Country Music Awards!

Crowns For Kids founder Mz. Rhonda and husband Sir Wayne, out to lend a touch of hyper-glamour to the proceedings.



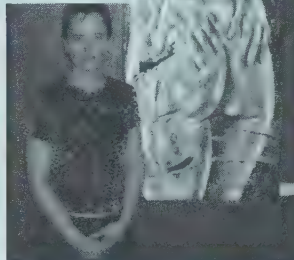
Dress Optional

Newly crowned Empress Erica Devine (centre) poses with Edmonton's Ida Clare (left) and Calgary Entertainer of the Year, Bruce Lee.

Lisa Heinricks ART OPENING
THE ARTHOUSE INC.

A Bit Of 'Front And Back'

Featured artist Lisa Heinricks poses in front of one of her works.



After School Special

Calgary school teachers (from left) Sharon Reib, Connie Hahn and Janice Holloway, on hand to lend support to Trafford's book.



Location-Location-Location

Poet and editor of The Story of Blue Eye, Susan Musgrave (left), with Mount Royal College librarian Margy MacMillan, front and centre for the reading.

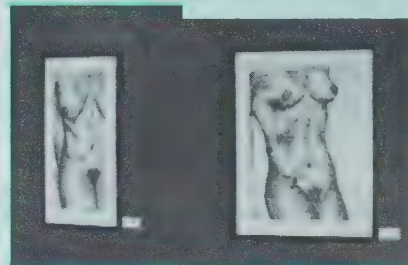


Framing The Frame

Matt (left) and Ryan pause to turn their attention to the Outlooks lens.

Two Times The Fun?

Excuse me, but did the Doublemint Twins know they were posing for this?



DAY 1, NEW LOCATION
B & D EMPORIUM



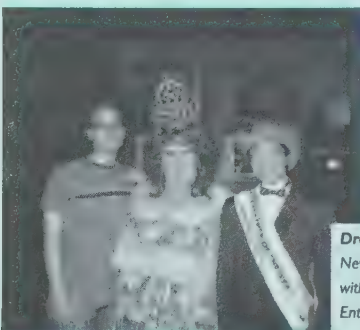
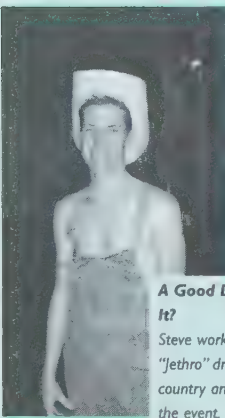
And Brought To You By The Letters 'B' And 'D'

Jessica (left) and Christine, both a bit weary after a long renovation process, manage to "harness" a couple of smiles for the camera.

Planning an event in Calgary?
Contact Cap at
(403) 228-1157
and we'll see about covering
it in Out & About.
Photos By: Outlooks Staff

A Good Look Overall... Get It?

Steve worked up his best "Jethro" drag to reflect the country and western theme of the event. Works for me...



Photography for all life styles!

↓

PATRICIO DEL RIO

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Stitching in sexiness

By Lincoln Phillip

If you are a wallflower, a shrinking violet or a prissy petunia, then you need not continue with this article. Priape Wear is designed for the queen bees of the garden, and head designer Alan Buzeta does not intend to soften the line's sexy sting!

"There is always that element of sexiness to the line, but I'd also like to think of it as being whimsical and naughty," says Buzeta, whose passion for the line has placed Priape Wear in the international arena of men's club and casual wear.

Priape Wear's universal appeal is evident in numerous cities in Asia, Australia, Europe and North America, "When Canadians travel and see the line in another country they nearly fall off their chair!" exclaims Buzeta, "they feel a sense of Canadian pride and will buy an item in that foreign city."

Ironically, a number of Canadians do not go to their local Priape stores to buy the clothes, because they associate the label Priape Wear with the place that sells gay sex paraphernalia and do not differentiate the two.

"When I go to England, I see guys in Priape Shirts everywhere; it's scary," says Buzeta, "you see more Priape Wear there than in Canada, because here people associate Priape with buying porn. If we are able to crack international markets, what's holding us up in Canada?" he asks.

Maybe it is a fear of being associated with a gay shop, or owning gay porn?

Whatever it is, Buzeta makes it clear that consumers in foreign countries love what is being produced in Canada. "The line is represented in thirty-five American cities, which the retailers say Canadians kick ass!" Buzeta enthuses, while noting that other Canadian labels such as JM underwear is also well represented in the international market.

He points out that, in foreign markets, Priape Wear is housed in well-known gay establishments as well as men's clothing stores such as: Prowler in London, England; Ministry of Kink in Zurich, Switzerland; IEM in Paris, France; and Injeanious in San Francisco, California.

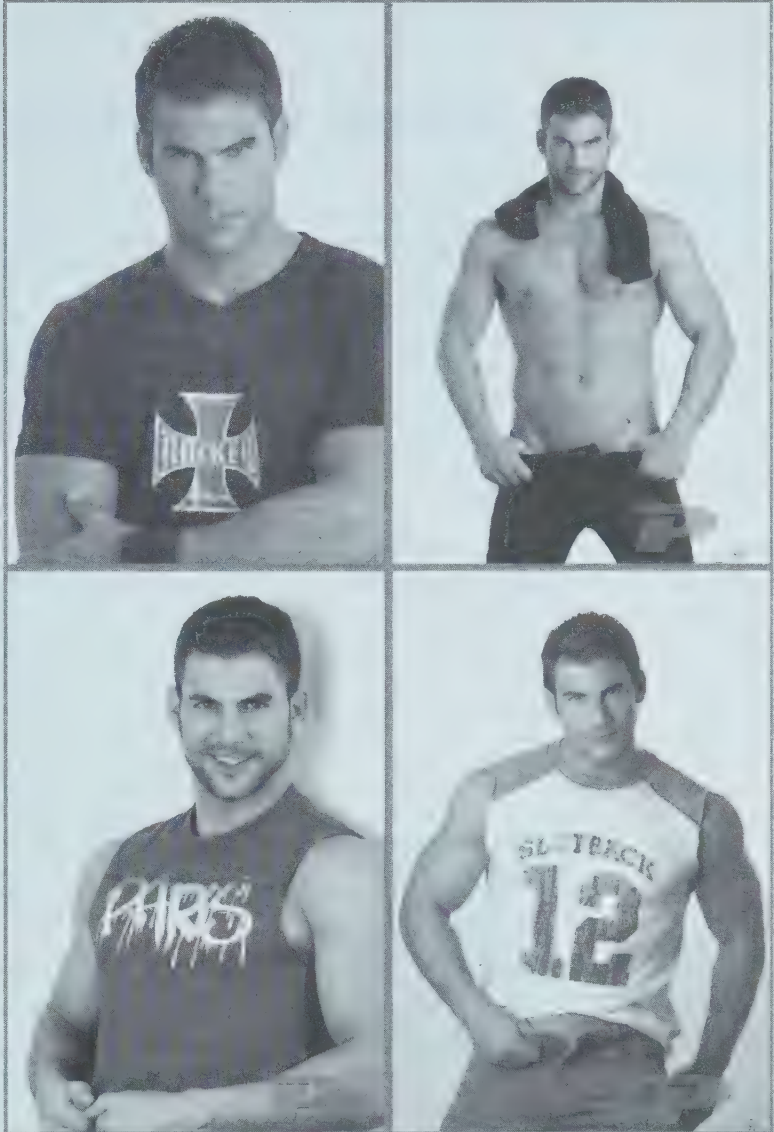
Buzeta has also cornered the globe by successfully securing Priape Wear's on line shopping presence on various websites, and recently launched www.priapewear.com. "The Priape Wear site is for retailers who are interested in picking up the line," he says.

Based in Montréal, Buzeta has been designing and marketing Priape Wear for the past four years. Unlike most fashion success stories of those who go to New York to study fashion design, Buzeta attended New York University and graduated with a business degree. "I've always liked fashion and figured that a business degree would allow for a broader scope in the industry," he says.

His clothing career began with a stint as an assistant buyer for Macy's New York; he then moved on to a position as production manager for Utex Corp in Montréal.

Buzeta became involved with the opening of Priape Toronto from 1993 to 1997. On the side, he has also styled for Toronto-based *fab* magazine and the now-defunct *Icon*. Immediately following his Toronto stints, Buzeta had his own sales agency through which he represented lines such as Calgary based Püsch, Brave Belts and This Ain't Kansas.

After closing his agency in 2000, Buzeta decided to focus on improving the sales of This Ain't Kansas (which was predominantly a T-shirt line) by changing the label to Priape Wear. "The longevity and sales of This Ain't Kansas was going down. It was once a big name, but it was time for a change," says Buzeta. He began by giving the tee shirts more



Items from Alan Buzeta's latest line for Priape Wear, as modelled by "ideal customer" Marco

sex appeal and added jeans to the line. "The first season was a gamble: when I presented Priape Wear at the Magic Marketplace [tradeshow] in Las Vegas, most of the buyers knew me, but not the line. They did not know that I was also designing the line."

However, with his business and marketing savvy, Buzeta eventually wowed the buyers into taking on his new line. "In this field you have to be a good consumer, know what is on the market and what customers want."

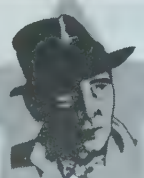
Buzeta's savoir-faire and stylish eye are also responsible for creating the ultra male image of Priape Wear. He immediately directed my attention to the current campaign model Marco, as the ideal customer. But in reality, the line appeals to various age groups and style tastes. "The T-shirts appeal to 'candy ravers', circuit boys, and forty-plus men who are into body building," he says.

On top of the main line, Priape Wear does offer seasonal pieces, which are divided into 'hot' and 'cold'. This fall, look out for Priape Body, a sexy new underwear line.

For this hot season, Buzeta feels that it is time to show off those arms!

Priape Wear offers an entire grouping of raglan muscle sport tees with a locker room twist, such as Tight End, Wide Receiver and Slot Back. For the non-jocks, Buzeta created other sexy silkscreens such as the "Sailor" or "Available" in bold yellow and red. "I get my silk screen ideas from the streets, and the various cities that I visit. These pieces are meant for party boys," says Buzeta. "Being gay, we are already a part of a subculture and have something in common, regardless of our nationality or background. This is why there is such a universal appeal to the line." ▼

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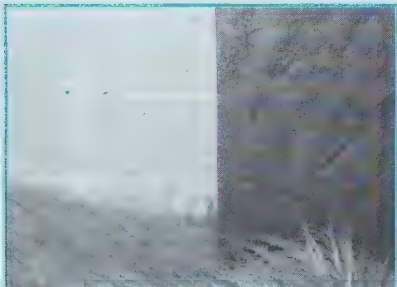
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Design in principle

By Alykhan Velji

Ever wonder what goes into making a room look magnificent? Even when we know that great pains have been taken to make a space look "just so" in a magazine spread or television feature, the best rooms always seem to have "just happened", with everything in its place according to some unspoken law of design. The good thing is, with design, very few laws are unspoken—at least when it comes to the basics of assembling the components of a space successfully. The lay person, even one with a good eye, has to take many things into account when decorating a room. In this article, my aim is to provide a simple overview of the elements of design, tried-and-true concepts that serve both the form and function of your lifestyle. Best of all, these elements will help make any room look balanced, in proportion and, most of all, gorgeous. Although these principles should be taken into consideration before you start to decorate, they are also "loose" enough to allow for individual tastes and expressions of personality. However, even though they are just guidelines, they are still important enough to bear in mind: by not at least acknowledging these concepts, a room can feel like it has no purpose.

SPACE: Although this term is tossed around a lot, it's just another way of describing a room (or rooms, in open plan schemes) being treated as a single unit. In the case of home décor, it's the blank slate you'll be working on. Within a single room—as in any aesthetic pursuit—there is positive space and negative space. Positive space is occupied by objects with mass (such as furniture) or even the *appearance* of mass (a lit area vs. a dark area) in a more "abstract" sense. Negative space is the space around an object or defined by an object (the shape implied by the gap between a chair's arm and seat, for example) or the areas in a room unoccupied by furniture or accessories. Striking a balance between positive and negative space is important, as too little negative space can make a room looked cluttered, while too much can result in an overall feeling of emptiness. In a practical sense, negative space is vital when it comes to sitting comfortably on furniture, having enough room to walk or placing sufficient emphasis on a focal point.



Texture—such as that shown in this brick wall, ceramic tile and Flokati rug—can lend visual interest to any space

LINE: The dynamic created by line helps to form the direction or feeling of a room. It is a key element in more "spare" interiors, and many modern rooms feature a lot of "clean" geometric lines, nothing too fussy or over-embellished. An imbalance in the lines of a room can create a subtle feeling of instability, while carefully thought-out ones will support the best features of the

space—highlighting a focal point or attractive architectural detail, for example.

Vertical Lines: Have a room that looks closed in? Adding things such as floor-to-ceiling drapes, columns or a striped wall treatment will give the room height, strength and dignity.

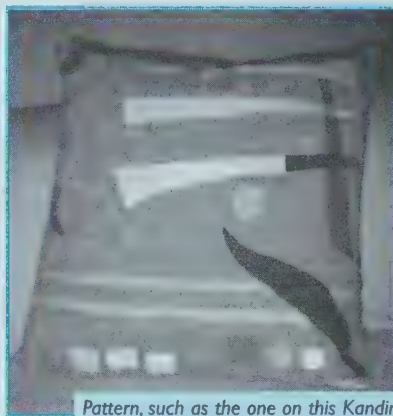
Horizontal Lines: These give a room a feeling of repose and solidity, and can also make it look bigger. Adding such décor elements as a chair rail or cornices will achieve this effect.

Diagonal Lines: These help create movement and action in a room. If you have a space that appears dull, things such as slanted ceilings, sloping furniture and arches will liven it up. Be careful, though, as too many diagonals can create a feeling of unrest.

SHAPE: Not many interiors can employ only one shape or form. If you have a lot of pieces in a room that are square-/rectangular-shaped, try breaking them up with some curved or circular pieces, such as vases, prints with circular patterns or art that features a circular motif. Too much of one shape in a room can be boring; your eye needs a "feast" of delicious shapes around a room, not just one. If in doubt, look to nature or art to see if certain shapes work well with others.

TEXTURE: Whether subtle or overt, this is one of the most important aspects of design, and refers to the surface quality on an object or material. Texture actually appeals to two of our senses: touch and sight, and brings character and visual interest to a room. More often than not, variations in texture are key, as the diversity of the materials used serves to highlight one another through contrast. Texture can be employed in many forms, in everything from accessories (a sisal rug, a mohair throw, the base of a lamp) to furnishings (leather, velvet or tweed upholstery fabrics) and the basic surface finishes in the room itself (slate vs. wood vs. broadloom carpet).

LIGHT: One of the most overlooked aspects of décor, it can alter the mood and appearance of a room: too much light can cause headaches and not having enough can inhibit productivity. You have to use your judgment when it comes to certain rooms and the amount of light they need, depending on the function of the space. Dimmer switches are great because they allow you to control the amount of light at any given time. There are various ways to bring light into a space: direct (track fixtures or pot lights); indirect (hanging fixtures that focus light upward); and task-oriented (lamps on flexible arms or fixtures mounted on the underside of cabinets). Keep in mind that a single light source in a room can be boring, and one type may only "work" at certain times of the day or



Pattern, such as the one on this Kandinsky-inspired crewelwork cushion, works best in managed "doses"

night. Keeping a diary of the activities you perform in a room, and the times of day you do them, really helps to determine your needs. This provides a foundation for striking a balance between form (i.e.: mood lighting) and function (i.e.: adequate lighting for performing various tasks).

COLOUR: This element in particular, has a strong psychological effect on people, and different colours evoke different feelings. For example, cool colours (such as blues, greens, and violets) feel relaxing, restful and soothing. Warm colours (reds, oranges, and yellows) tend to be positive, cheery and stimulating. Depending on the mood you want to create, colour must be chosen accordingly and appropriately.

PATTERN: As important as colour (which was covered in-depth last month's issue of *Outlooks*), pattern contributes as much—if not more—interest to a room as line and texture. Though it's often considered key in traditional or contemporary interiors, pattern also plays a significant role in modern interiors, particularly in surface materials (i.e.: glass mosaic tiles) and accessories (a throw pillow with an interesting design, perched on a plain sofa). Remember, all good things remain so in moderation; overdoing pattern in a single space can be overwhelming and create a sense of discord.

The material above is essential to consider when you are tackling any décor project, large or small, and finding the balance between each element is key. By using your head and not overdoing one specific thing, you will have a fabulous room (or whole home!) in which to entertain or simply live your life to the fullest. Happy decorating! ▼



Alykhan Velji

residential/commercial
interior decorator

www.gayedmonton.com



12224 JASPER AVE., EDMONTON 780-482-7960



By Outlooks Staff

For Aaron Creurer (pictured above), one-half of the team behind Calgary-based catering firm Red Tree, form and function are not just the domain of art. Along with business partner Susan Hopkins, Creurer has embraced a culinary style that is equal parts practicality and panache, influenced and informed through far-flung gastronomic "recon" missions around the globe.

"We try to strike a balance with our food, so that it's both innovative in presentation as well as flavourful," says Creurer of Red Tree's ever-changing menu. "I think we're more 'worldly' eaters now—even more than, say, ten years ago—so it really opens up a lot of possibilities for us." He cites influences from countries that border the Mediterranean—Morocco, Greece and Turkey—as "pungent" flavour favourites, and also acknowledges conceptual contributions from Asian countries such as Vietnam, Thailand and Japan, particularly in the summer months when lighter fare is the order of the day.

For nine years, Red Tree has garnered a loyal following for its fresh approach to food, the company's reputation being spread (literally, in the case of enticing edibles) by word-of-mouth through various catering functions around the city. In 2002, Creurer and Hopkins broke into the retail market with a storefront operation in Calgary's emerging Marda Loop district. The shop, which also bears the company name, offers a variety of gourmet take-away delights for those too busy—or too lazy—to tackle the chore themselves. "This is a great option for people on the go," says Creurer, "particularly since it's not just convenient food, it's quality food as well. We try to cook with the seasons, and use as much locally available and organic ingredients as possible. It's not our mandate to be one hundred percent organic, but we're trying to implement that wherever possible, 'cause it really makes sense and it seems to be the direction things are going in."

On top of the daily dishes designed to make life a bit easier (and certainly more delicious) for busy Calgarians, Red Tree offers a variety of condiments, both their own and imports from around the world, as well as baked goods and pasta. "Our marinated St. Loup chevre is hugely popular, and so is our butter chicken," says Creurer, citing only a few of his clientele's more decadent favourites. "But we also do really well with our lighter hors d'oeuvres, dips and crudités."

Hardly stingy guardians of culinary secrets, Creurer and Hopkins are always happy to share their extensive knowledge of food. Below are two recipes from Red Tree's "star" roster: the aforementioned Marinated St. Loup Chevre, Pancetta-wrapped Asparagus and their (in) famous Chocolate Diablo Cake. Creurer assures us that both are well within the realm of possibility for everyday cooks, but if either proves too intimidating, the "real thing" may be had with no fuss through Red Tree's retail operation, located at 2129 33rd Avenue S.W. in Calgary.

Marinated St. Loup Chevre

This marinated cheese is a hit at any party, and the colourful topping of tomato and fresh basil looks great on a buffet table. Serve it with thin slices of baguette as it can drip.

100g.	St. Loup goat's cheese (any mild chevre will work)	
1/4c.	extra virgin olive oil	[60ml]
2 tbsp.	balsamic vinegar	[30ml]
1 tbsp.	julienned fresh basil	[15ml]
2 tbsp.	chopped red sundried tomatoes	[30ml]
2 tbsp.	chopped yellow sundried tomatoes	[30ml]
1 clove	minced garlic	
2 cloves	roasted garlic	
	cracked pepper	

If you have a small log of goat's cheese, cut it into 3/4 inch slices and place in a small bowl. Pour oil and balsamic vinegar over it, then top with fresh garlic, sundried tomatoes, roasted garlic and cracked pepper. This can sit covered for several days in your fridge. Top with julienned basil just before serving.

Pancetta-wrapped Asparagus

(Red Tree uses pancetta from Francesco's Italian market on 26th Ave and 33rd St. S.W.)

8 ozs	pancetta (coil pressed if possible)	[250 grams]
1	bunch asparagus	
	fig and olive balsamic vinegar or orange-flavored olive oil	

In a large pot of boiling water, blanch the asparagus for ten seconds and drop immediately into ice water to stop it from cooking any further. Drain and let dry. Wrap pancetta around asparagus at the centre of each stalk then, over a very hot grill pan or frying pan, sear the pancetta onto the asparagus. Drizzle with fig and olive balsamic (or the orange-flavoured olive oil) to taste.

Diablo Chocolate Cake

Dark, deep and mysterious, this is the height (and depth!) of decadence. The flavour of the chili and cinnamon mixed with chocolate creates a perfect sinful summer dessert.

Cake portion:

10 ozs	dark chocolate	[300 grams]
1 cup	sugar	[250 ml]
1 1/4 cups	butter	[280 grams]
10	eggs (separated)	[10—of course!]
1 tsp	cinnamon	[5 ml]
1/2 tsp	chili powder	[2ml]
1/2 tsp	black pepper	[2 ml]

Ganache Topping:

8 oz	dark chocolate	[250 grams]
1 cup	whipping cream	[250 ml]

Melt chocolate in double boiler or on the low setting in a microwave (the chocolate will burn, so take your time and stir every couple of minutes). Cream 1/2 cup sugar with butter and spices, then add egg yolks one at a time until all yolks are completely mixed in. Add the sugar/egg mixture into the melted chocolate and mix well. Whip egg whites until they form medium peaks and add sugar slowly while still beating the eggs. Fold egg whites into chocolate mixture in three parts. Spread 3/4 of the mixture on a cookie sheet lined with parchment paper and bake at 325 degrees for thirty-five minutes. Chill the other 1/4 of the mixture.

After the cake comes out and cools completely, run a knife along the edges of the pan and invert; the cake should fall out easily. If it breaks, don't worry: it's easily repaired. Remove the parchment from the bottom. Spread half of the mixture on the cake and cut it in half. Put one layer on top of the other and spread the other half of the mixture on top again. Cut the cake in half again and put one layer on top of the other. Chill.

Melt the ganache chocolate in a low microwave or double boiler, then add whipping cream and warm again until the mixture is warm and runny. Place the cake on a serving tray and pour the chocolate mixture over it. Garnish with summer fruit or flowers. ♥



Sweet (and spicy) sin: Red Tree's Diablo Chocolate Cake

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Driven by Desire

Canada's women's community is about to get a new publication. Calgary-based *Desire* magazine is set to launch its premiere issue this month and, if their advance promotional material is a sign of things to come, the grrrls of Canada have something to look forward to.

It is no small task to launch a magazine; costs of publishing can be prohibitive, competition for advertising dollars is stiff and even the big magazines such as *Chatelaine* are seeing their subscription revenues drop. However, publisher Shelagh Anderson is well aware of the risks she's taking, as the former publisher of *qc* magazine, she's no stranger to the publishing world. She took a five-year leave after family medical issues forced the closure of *qc* in 1998 but she's back

with an organized team of women ready to celebrate the strength and diversity of the women's community in Canada in print and online.

Desire's move toward a print edition has been slow and steady. In order to build a readership inside a community that is often underground, *Desire* launched its website in July 2002 (www.desiremag.com). The website has allowed Anderson to reach her target market, build a database of names and to raise awareness of the magazine and its editorial ambitions. Not only has the move to print has been a natural progression (short of introducing porn or off-shore gambling on the site!) it is the next logical step in developing a revenue generating business.

And that is the goal. While success in magazine publishing is an uphill battle, Anderson and the team at *Desire* have been working hard to reach their business goals. National distribution has been secured and subscriptions are being sold through *Desire* magazine's website. And the publication shows all the promise of providing the fun of a fashion magazine with the intelligence of a feminist magazine.

Subscription sales will be critical to its success. A solid base of subscriptions not only boosts the morale of the staff working on a magazine, it allows the magazine to demonstrate to potential advertisers that it is able to reach its target market. Furthermore, statistics gathered on *Desire's* readership will allow it to prove to advertisers that its demographic is a lucrative one.

Sounds nasty doesn't it—all this business talk, but that is how wee magazines like *Outlooks* and *Desire* survive in a sea of *Chatelaines* and *GQs*. They prove to advertisers, potential investors and the few and far between government funding bodies that they indeed have an audience and serve a need. My point? If you think you'd like to see a women's magazine that celebrates its affinity with the LBTT community, then buy a subscription. It'll cost about the same as two beers and a couple of rounds of pool. (Or two martinis and a tube of lipstick.)

Another reason to check out *Desire* is that Anderson is wise enough to surround herself with a team of professionals. She herself brings expertise from three years publishing *qc*, seventeen years experience working as a photographer as well as training in journalism. Managing Editor Shereen Tuomi has worked in community development, volunteer management and social justice for about ten years, all the while moonlighting as freelance writer and editor, most recently as a regular contributor to *Fast Forward* weekly. Anderson recognized Tuomi's talent after Tuomi offered her services as a writer and quickly offered her the position of Managing Editor. Creative Director Tara Sukut has a strong background in communications and media relations; she and Anderson met when Anderson overheard her discussing the need for a women's magazine in Canada with her girlfriend. Finally, the team is rounded out by web mistress and designer Johanna van Lieburg,

Dianna Ducs and photo editor Taryn Jollimore (not to mention countless volunteers). Anderson describes herself as a street-smart visionary, she knows her limitations and so she brings experts in their fields to complement her skills.

Anderson has assessed the situation of the women's community in Canada and is optimistic about her new venture. *Desire* magazine is geared toward "well-educated, sophisticated, upwardly mobile women who love women". To quote its website, *Desire* "caters to the lesbian, bisexual, bi-curious and transgendered and two-spirited community with the goal of becoming the primary source of information to this major element within the gay community."

Anderson believes that, as a community, women are at a pivotal point in their history. She states that not in recorded memory have we, as women or as members of the LBTT community, been so visible, so powerful and so faced with choice and agency. *Desire* intends to celebrate this point in our collective history. However, Anderson recognizes that loving women is not a trait exclusive to the LBTT community and that *Desire* will be a magazine that focuses not just on our sexual desire, but also on our passions for justice, politics, sport, passion, fun, creativity, spirituality and community. She goes on to state that everywhere we look, we see another reason to love women in every way, and that's what the team at *Desire* plans to share between the covers. Sounds like a plan to me. ▼



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OUTLOOKS

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* Submissions must fall within the 1,500 maximum word count. All entries over the limit—even by a single word—will be automatically disqualified.

* All stories must be submitted in a PC-friendly manner, either in Word or Word.doc formats. Stories submitted in the body text of an e-mail, or in any format other than those previously specified, will be automatically disqualified.

* Electronic entries should be submitted to: rsvp@outlooks.ca and must be received by midnight on July 31st, 2004, without exception.

* Even though submissions are being accepted electronically, a hard copy of each story must also be submitted by post. Hard copy entries must be postmarked on or before July 31st, 2004, and should be sent to Outlooks' mailbox at:

Box 439, Suite 100 1039 17th Avenue S.W. Calgary, AB T2T 0B2

* Hard copy submissions will become the property of Outlooks and, without exception, will not be returned to entrants. First and second runners-up will have their stories published (without remuneration) in the October and November issues of Outlooks, respectively. The winning story will appear in the December 2004 edition.



Photo by Alexander Piana

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JoLynn likes to socialize with friends—playing pool and sharing laughs. Much in the same way as her partner, she likes to keep life in the community interesting and fun.



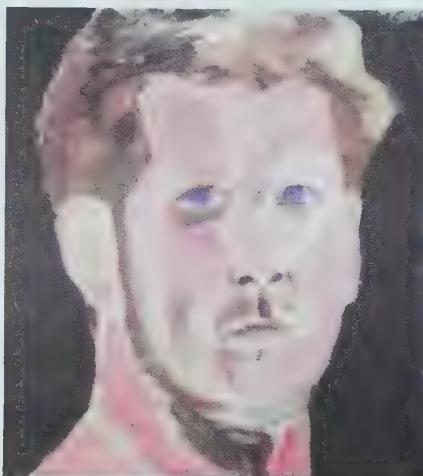
Photographed by David Crossin on location at Honey Pennies



DAVE WALL AT WORK IN HIS STUDIO

DAVE WALL IS A SELF-TAUGHT, NATIVE TORONTONIAN ARTIST, WHO APPRECIATES THE WORKS OF VAN GOGH, CARAVAGGIO AND DEGAS. IN HIS MOST RECENT PIECES, DONE IN WATERCOLOURS, HE IS TRYING TO CAPTURE THE ESSENCE OF THE MOOD IN CURRENT COURTROOM (CRIMINAL) TRIALS. THE MAIN INGREDIENTS FOR HIS ART ARE PASSION AND LIGHT. HE IS THANKFUL TO OUTLOOKS FOR THIS EXCELLENT FEATURE, SUPPORTING CANADIAN ARTISTS. DAVE WALL CAN BE REACHED BY E-MAIL AT: WALL_DAVE78@HOTMAIL.COM.

framed



SELF PORTRAIT, 10x12 (2003) - OIL AND ACRYLIC



THE STEAMS, 36x54 (2002) OIL AND ACRYLIC



PUSSY PALACE, 29x36 (2002) - OIL AND ACRYLIC



PETER, 20x24 (1995) - CHARCOAL

OUTLOOKS

is proud to bring you this new showcase of artistic talent in Canada's GLBT community. If you would like your work considered for this feature please submit samples to main@outlooks.ca

June will greet us with a plethora of prideful planets that posit in the summer signs of Gemini and Cancer. Remember that this is the time of year to let our hearts and minds speak up loud, proud and queer. See you in the parade, pardner!

ARIES (MARCH 21 - APRIL 20)

Rollicking gay Rams will let their emotions pour forth throughout Pride month. But do you mean what you say or are you just flapping the air and unnecessarily stirring up a storm? This is the time of year to prioritize and separate the crucial from the time-wasting. Mars sez that your home is your castle, so be sure to fill your moat with cherries stewed with champagne.

TAURUS (APRIL 21 - MAY 21)

There will be a great deal of activity going on in your finances this June and queer Bulls will be anxious to see what the bottom line looks like. But before you whip out that wallet, check to see if the cost is worth the benefits—you're apt to call it as you see it in any neighbourhood cause. This may make you top of the heap in certain circles and bottom of the drawer with certain squares.

GEMINI (MAY 22 - JUNE 21)

What is it that will make you soooo popular this Pride month? It must be that gaggle of planets goosing your sign. This will be a time of new things, new people and new ideas. Pink Twins can glide into the centre of their social universe but their need to please may outweigh the advantages of popularity. Don't be so needy, hon; let the throbbing masses come to you. And they will...

CANCER (JUNE 22 - JULY 23)

Your hazy, crazy imagination will run Wilde this Pride month. What type of mischief will you conjure up as the Wizard of Ooze? Once the smoke clears, pink Crabs may be able to dump all that stinking closeted garbage that has been piling up. Unload and lock, buddy; you have nothing to lose but your psychological chains and that awful collection of kelly green mini shorts.

LEO (JULY 24 - AUGUST 23)

Proud Lions will seem a bit distracted and disconnected in the first two weeks of Pride month but that is because they are focusing on distant thunder and not the current social roar. There'll be a lot going on under the surface, but as Pride month chugalugs along, Leos will be able to refocus and will be off and running with their hearts in their hands and a song in their hearts. Errr... okay.

VIRGO (AUGUST 24 - SEPTEMBER 23)

Question authority, queer Virgin. There will be a confluence of events this Pride month that makes it apparent that things and certain attitudes must change... or else. Keep your eyes open to new opportunities. Luck will be with you, compadre, as anything or anyone new has the potential to carry you to new heights. A new broom sweeps clean and so must you. Just don't sweep it under the rug.

LIBRA (SEPTEMBER 24 - OCTOBER 23)

A Libra parade of planets will boost your global outlook. On a clear day, you can see forever... or something like that, so set your sights on exotic locales and travel. Emotions will take control of any legal proceedings so maintain your judicial balance. Gay Libras will see potential in every habeas corpus. Let's hope that it will involve more than just a brief encounter before you rest your case.

SCORPIO (OCTOBER 24 - NOVEMBER 22)

You'll be like a kid in a candy shop this June. Proud Scorps will be tempted by many dalliances but could miss the life-altering relationships that can bring one's life and love to new levels. Open your heart and mind, lover, but don't be a sucker for every piece of sugar. It will soon become apparent that solidification and structure are needed before you can achieve nirvana.

SAGITTARIUS (NOVEMBER 23 - DECEMBER 22)

Relationships will come to the fore during Pride month and may cramp your style. You cannot remain a fancy-free gay blade forever, although you may try. At one point or another, Archers will have to choose between several interesting and compelling situations or risk losing them all. They say nobody loves you when you're down and out, but of course that's only half-true.

CAPRICORN (DECEMBER 23 - JANUARY 20)

Clever pink Caps will think that they have all the angles covered this June. First, scope out the best parties, get into shape and then prepare to cocoon happily ever after. Ah, were it that simple, honey. Life doesn't follow easy direction; it meanders and detours. Any schlub can follow the straight and narrow but it takes a star to embrace the vast and unknown cosmos.

AQUARIUS (JANUARY 21 - FEBRUARY 19)

Let your heart sip from whatever watering hole it desires, but don't let it get stuck in sentiment and drown. Even romance-adverse Aqueerians can get swept up in the moment, but remember to hold onto the rail before you go overboard. There is the chance that you will overdo this Pride month in every creative pastime and amusing side pursuit. But ah, what a way to go!

PISCES (FEBRUARY 20 - MARCH 20)

If you feel pulled in several directions at once, blame a spate of ornery outer planets this June for kicking up the dirt. Guppies may think they can play one set of issues off another but that won't work. Separate the warring parties and deal with each one in turn. Start with your domestic agenda and then branch out to all corporate challenges. Better yet, escape and take a vacation.

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Purposes Only. Cruise www.TheStarryEye.com for prescient horoscopes and insightful articles. Madam is the author of the highly acclaimed *HerScopes: A Guide To Astrology For Lesbians from Simon & Schuster*. This book would have won the Pulitzer had the voting not been rigged.

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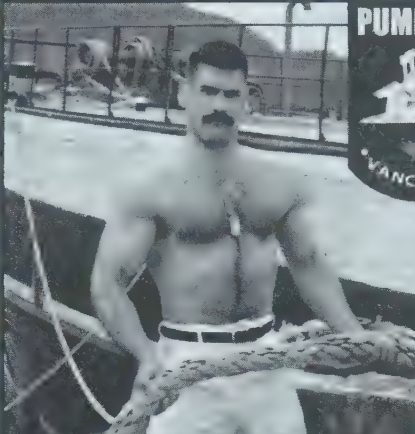
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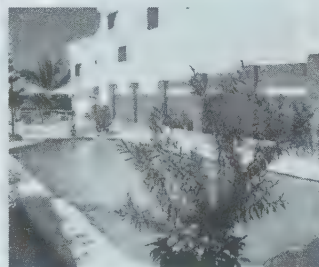
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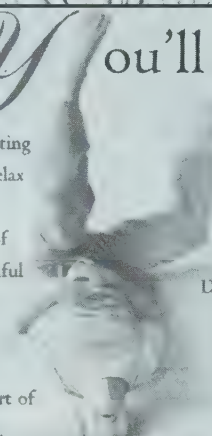


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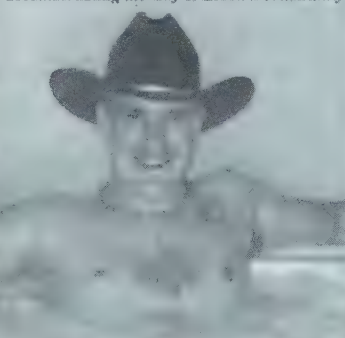
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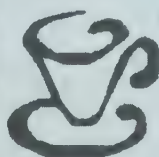
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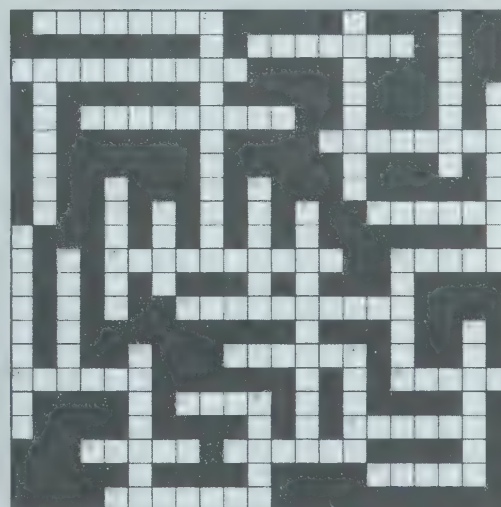
clues & words by Outlooks staff
answers on page 45

Across

- 1) Founder of gay fathers group in Halifax: Doug _____
- 5) Type of rugged men featured in Sharp Shooters
- 6) B&B mentioned in current travel story
- 9) Artist whose work is seen in Calgary Out & About
- 10) He counts Van Gogh, Caravaggio andegas as inspirations
- 15) Mexican term for Devil or type of chocolate ganache cake
- 18) Alpine-themed ski destination in Okanagan
- 19) Several British men or cowboy accessory
- 20) This Vancouver queen just celebrated 70
- 23) Montreal-based designer of Priape Wear: Alan _____
- 25) Calgary-based lesbian magazine slated to launch in June
- 26) Talk show hostess who just won Daytime Emmy
- 27) Outlooks writing competition or sign-off on formal invite
- 29) All-women cruise ship company or Ms Newton John
- 30) Female Don't You Wish model is seen in this type of vehicle
- 31) Late Arts enthusiast Larry or Home Improvement neighbour
- 32) Male Don't You Wish or Alberta Premier Klein
- 33) Aaron Creurer and Susan Hopkins catering firm

Down

- 2) Comedian playing at ARGRA Rodeo



- 3) The GLBT vote won him his riding in 2000
- 4) Maritime city added as an Outpost this month
- 7) The Summerhill winery features this geometric figure
- 8) Inflatables shown on Pride Guide cover
- 11) Canadian version of San Francisco leather event: _____ North
- 12) Popular denim manufacturer or adjective for dyke
- 13) Garment of choice at Pumpjack theme night
- 14) Fred says this star's pubic hair is yucky
- 16) recently held circuit event in Montreal
- 17) This hockey team's raising a ruckus in Calgary
- 19) Variety of soft cheese featured in food article recipe
- 21) She's the former publisher of qc magazine: _____ anderson
- 22) Term used to describe surface finishes in design
- 24) Tori Spelling's dad or country star Pritchett
- 28) Deadly sin or annual homo celebration

Sharp Shooters

From: Centaur Films



Featuring: Mark Mason, Tony Cummings, K. C. Hart, Brent Cross, Paul Morgan, Marco Antonio, Jean Riviera, Tony West, Scott Davis

Running Time: 100 minutes

It's the wild, wild west and there's more cowboys vs. outlaw action than any sheriff could handle alone. That's probably why Sheriff Mark Mason has a cute, young lover and a few deputies to help him handle the big task of looking after his territory. His young lover, Tony Cummings, is worried about Mark's safety as they ride the circuit to Dry Gulch to hire a new deputy. After all, last month the previous deputy was shot and killed, which makes this a potentially dangerous journey.

Mark assures Tony he's the best shooter in the countryside and there's nothing to worry about. At their overnight campsite, Tony needs some reassurance and Mark is happy to prove he's number one—in and out of the saddle! Riding Tony like a prize stallion, Mark is definitely on top and shows he can handle himself in any situation. Tony takes it like a man but is still worried about their safety on the deserted trails; unfortunately, he has to head back to their ranch and leave Mark to make the treacherous journey alone.

Meanwhile, back at the outlaw ranch, the leader K. C. Hart is looking for some hot action. He sends his men into town to pick up a male whore that he's heard is working at the saloon and he wants them to start some trouble to keep the sheriff busy. They leave K. C. with his latest prize pick-up, a hustler named Tony who has to keep the outlaw leader satisfied. This outlaw proves why he's the one in charge as soon as he unzips his

jeans and reveals ten inches just waiting to be engulfed by Tony's mouth. K.C. makes for a pretty sight when he's naked except for his cowboy hat, and even Tony can't resist the pleasure of this horse-hung stud.

Back in town, it's bartender Scott Davis who saves the male whore from a sticky fate with the two outlaws. When the two cowboys storm the saloon trying to capture Paul Morgan for Casey's next conquest, it's Scott's gun that turns them away empty-handed. However, Scott has his own plans for the innocent customer and Paul gratefully submits to his "saviour". Scott closes the saloon and quickly drops his Levi's to reveal an even more impressive gun with a twelve-inch barrel. After seeing this you might want to saddle up and head to the ARGRA Rodeo for some wild cowboy action of your own.

Review Sponsored by Rainbow Pride Resource Centre

2nd Floor 1229 16th Avenue SW, Calgary

(403)266-5685 Email: rpride@telus.net

RATING: OUT OF FIVE POSSIBLE STARS

MUSIC: ★★★★★

SET: ★★★★★

BODIES: ★★★★★(★)

STORY: ★★★★★

ACTION SCENES: ★★★★★

Later, by the pool, a Spanish galleon is ready for two pirates to rape and pillage in the foreground. A swimming pool doesn't look much like the high seas, but the pirates know how to perform convincingly nonetheless. Again, the doorbell rings—and this time it's Officer Duke Peterson! The poolside filming continues and the cameraman—as well as a hidden neighbour—are aroused by the hot poolside sex. These two well-hung buccaneers know how to put on a show for everyone.

Even when the producer decides to take a rest on the sandy beach of the Pacific Ocean, the hot action continues. The neighbourhood surfer boy happens to be there and he's definitely ready to audition for a starring role in the movie. They find a deserted cabana on the beach and surfer boy quickly reveals his amazing qualifications for "taking the lead".

This trip back to the '60s has some fun moments in-between the hot action and may prove educational for those who missed the decade of the evolution of sexual freedom.

Review Sponsored by Express Video

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RATING: OUT OF FIVE POSSIBLE STARS

MUSIC: ★★★★★

SET: ★★★★★

BODIES: ★★★★★

STORY: ★★★★★

ACTION SCENES: ★★★★★

There Goes The Neighborhood

From: All World Video



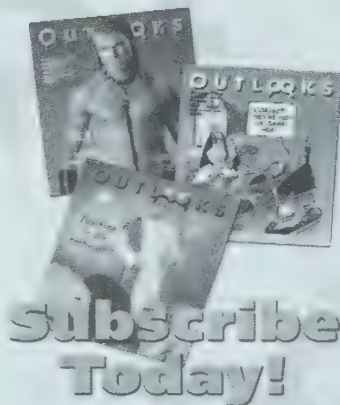
Featuring: Paul Johnson, Andy Dill, Brad Benton, Rod Barry, Deacon Frost, Dillon Press, Chris Bolt, Jay Ross, Phil Phillips, Zack Hunter

Running Time: 100 minutes

Back in the '60s, the adult movie industry was an underground culture, especially in the gay community. The movies were shot on film (pre-video era) and one of the biggest challenges for the producers was where to process the film legally—often in Europe. The porn stars were young "beefcakes" and costumes or sets were an important part of the production. This movie is a comedic spoof on how producers, directors, cameramen and actors hide themselves in the suburbs to make a new movie. However, this California neighbourhood has curious neighbours and everyone wants to be a star—that is, until they discover the truth!

The year is 1963. The neighbours are golfers, surfers and an all-in-blue California cop. The home across the street is empty until the new tenants arrive, complete with lights, camera and hot action. Nosed housewives with binoculars are fascinated by the move-in and want to see this movie in action in their own backyards.

The cast and crew waste no time setting up the first scene, where a Roman gladiator is dressed for a challenge with his prisoner, who is tied to some pillars. Once "action" is called, even the ring of the front door bell can't stop the performance. The two "Romans" undress and wrestle with each other despite the welcome wagon at the front door. One of the actors, Rod Barry, shows that his enormous weapon is ready for action and cannot be interrupted.



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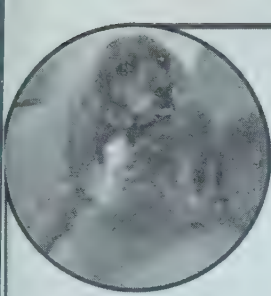
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Dear Freddy

Dear Freddy,
I am freaked out! I've been dating this hottie for a few weeks now and we finally got down to some action last night. The sex was great (I'd like more) but I was totally put off by the fact that he shaves everything down there. Everything. There wasn't even a

whisker! I know porn stars do it—and it does look hot—but does this mean he's some kind of hustler or slut? I know I have feelings for him but if he's a total player I think I should just walk away—what's your take?

R.H.

Saskatoon

Dear R.H.

Ah—so you've been faced with the "bald truth" and you don't know how to handle it, huh? (I suspect you handled a few things that night, but let's stick to his depilated dickey-bird, for now...) Here's the deal, hon: a lot of guys shave (or at least trim) down there and a lot of other guys don't. Big deal. Has he done anything else that would make you think he's a player or a whore? If not, I think you're overreacting. As someone covered entirely in fur, I actually prefer the "clean look" on a man. And, as I said, a lot of men—mostly gay—like the look of a slick willy and sometimes even incorporate shaving into their sex routine. Ever see that picture of Keanu Reeves hitchhiking nude with his hand cupped over his weenie? It's disgusting how massive his bush is... It's an Afro, for God's sake—he's the Gabe Kaplan of pubic hair. This was, for me, incontrovertible proof that the gay rumours were just not true: David Geffen wouldn't touch that thicket with a ten-foot pole, let alone marry it! So you see, R.H., a clip job—no matter how minimal or extreme—is a good thing, really. If you still feel strongly about the matter, put an anti-deforestation bumper sticker on your car and do him again anyway.
Hope this helps.
Freddy

Dear Freddy,

My girlfriend and I have been together for three years and we've had a fairly 'open' relationship; kind of a "don't ask, don't tell" agreement that has worked well for both of us. However, I recently saw my stepmother and my lover "in the act", and I was able to sneak away without disturbing them. I can't get this image out of my mind.

My girlfriend is a very beautiful woman and my stepmother is very elegant and treats my father well. I'm in turmoil about approaching either of them. And, as time has passed, I have realized how turned on I was by watching them! Do I confront my girlfriend, despite our 'arrangement'? How can I approach my stepmother without embarrassing her, my girlfriend or my dad? Should I tell my father his "trophy wife" is cheating? Please help.
Sightseeing Sally.

Dear Sally,

And what a sight you have seen—be thankful that it wasn't your biological mother or you'd be scarred for life! I don't care how much anyone loves their parents; seeing dear old mom or pop "bumping uglies" in any context is the stuff nightmares (and wealthy psychoanalysts) are made of. However, you, Sally, seem to be OK with the little carnal vignette you witnessed—at least as OK as someone could be. I think the important factor in your arrangement is the "don't tell" part; your signif other likely wouldn't have told you about her tryst, so you likely shouldn't ask about it. If they wanted an audience (however willing, you dirty bird, you!) they would've organized something with TicketMaster. Know that old adage about letting sleeping dogs lie? I'll bet that policy is doubly true when it comes to raging pussies, so let's leave it at that (I know I'll be twitching in my sleep tonight). The only thing I might suggest for you is introducing a few simple "props" into boudoir play with your gf—a cashmere twin-set and a strand of pearls, perhaps? Sounds to me like someone likes herself the "granny love". Woof!

Lotsa licks,

Fred

Write to me, Dears!

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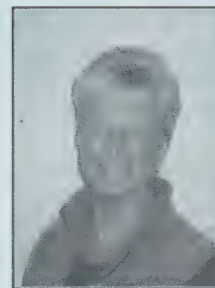
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PRO file



Board Member:

Judy Munson

Question:

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Answer:

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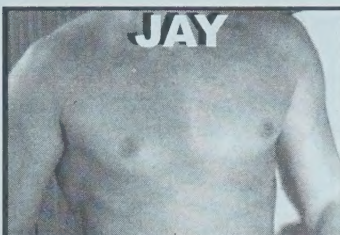
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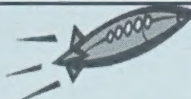


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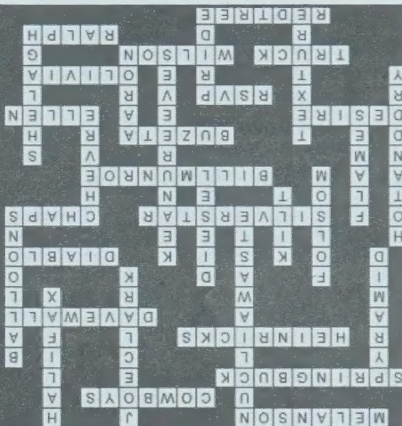
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Crossword solution...
Puzzle on page 41



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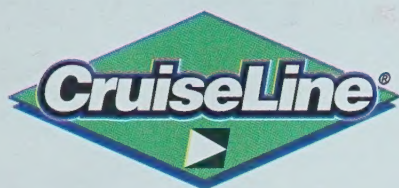
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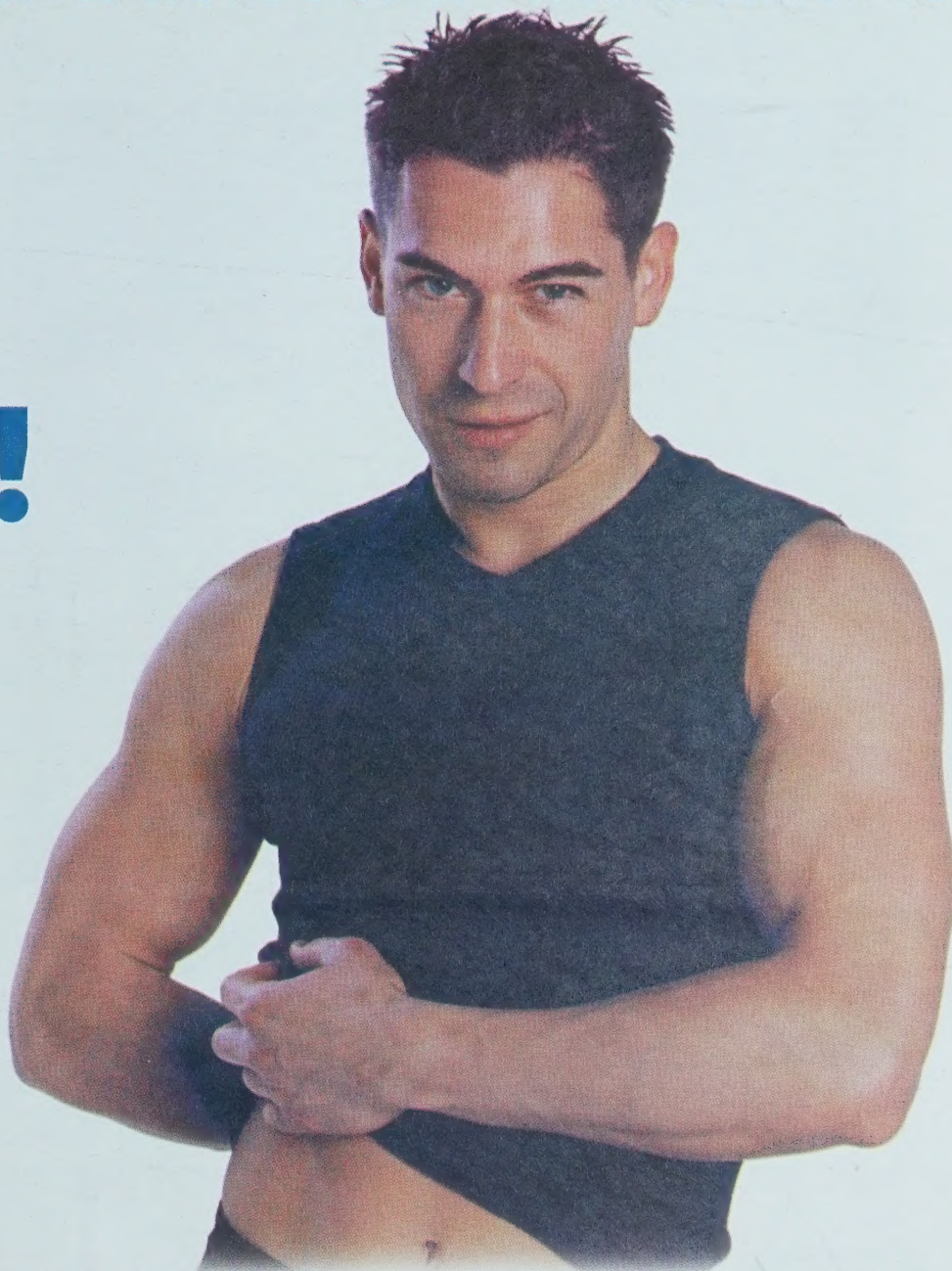


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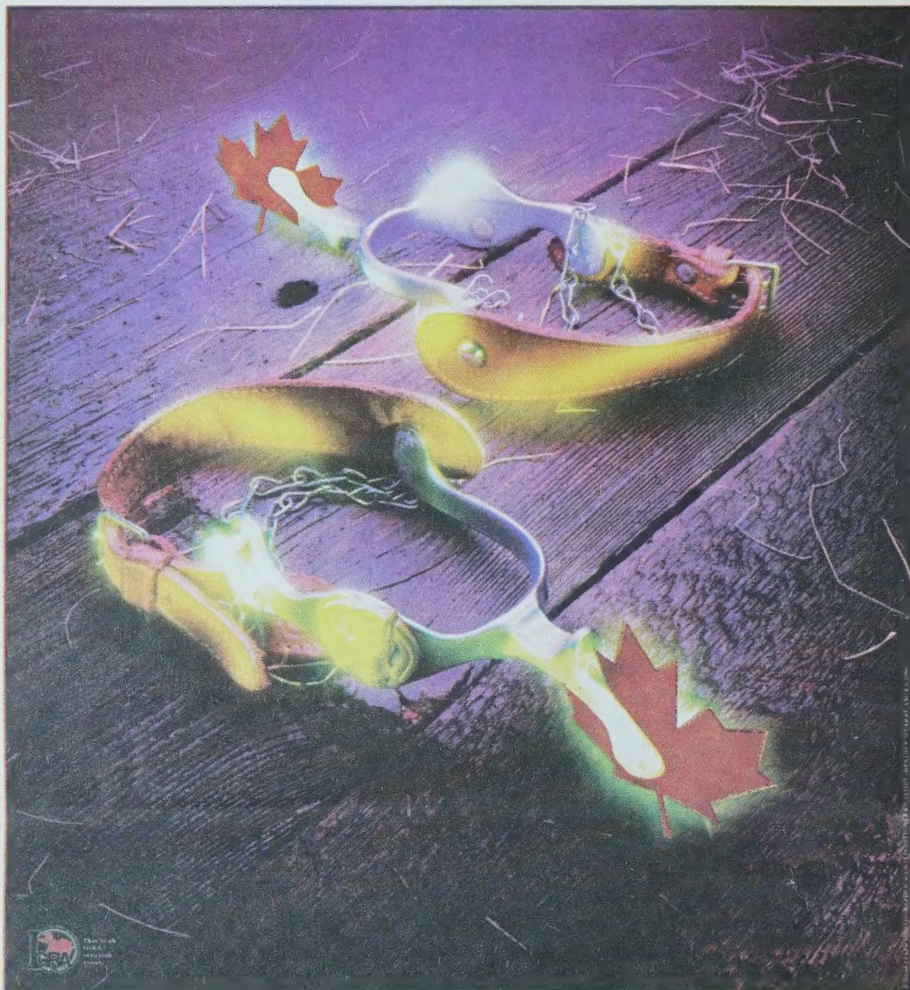


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